

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 18, 1883.

WITH TWO SUPPLEMENTS SIXPENCE.
BY POST, 45D.



Sea Side
Sketches.

The Luxury of
Idleness

BIRTHS.

On the 11th inst., at 43, Belgrave-square, the Viscountess Lascelles, of a daughter.

On the 11th inst., at 23, Upper Mallow-street, Limerick, the Lady Charles Pratt, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 2nd inst., at St. Saviour's, Shanklin, by the Rev. H. C. Jollye, and the Rev. C. J. Burland, Vicar, the Rev. Vincent King Cooper, Minor Canon of Durham, youngest son of the late E. M. Cooper, of Pendleton, near Manchester, to Alice Elizabeth, only daughter of the late Rev. Herbert Morse, of Swaffham, Norfolk.

On June 5, at St. George's Church, Penang, by the Rev. John Walker, M.A., Colonial Chaplain, Felix Henry Valantine, younger son of Felix Henry Gottlieb, Esq., J.P., lately senior Magistrate and Commissioner of the Court of Requests, Penang, to Emily Augusta, second daughter of Edward Oldroyd Haigh, Esq., M.A., of Bramham, Yorkshire.

On the 9th inst., at St. George's, Hanover-square, by the Hon. and Rev. Henry Douglas, brother of the bride, assisted by the Rev. Nathaniel Poyntz, Colonel Sir Owen Tudor Burne, K.C.S.I., O.L.E., to the Lady Agnes Charlotte Douglas, daughter of the late Earl of Morton.

DEATH.

On the 8th inst., at Monte Generoso, Mendrisio, Switzerland, George Cecili, for thirty years the faithful servant and friend of Edward Lear, aged 66.

* The charge for the insertion of Births, Marriages, and Deaths, is Five Shillings for each announcement.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING AUG. 25.

SUNDAY, AUG. 19.	
Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity.	Westminster Abbey, 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.
Morning Lessons: II. Kings v.; Rom. vi. 1-24 or vii.; Matt. xxvi. 31-57.	St. James's, noon.
St. Paul's Cathedral, 10.30 a.m., Rev. David Trinder; 3.15 p.m., Rev. Canon Liddon; 7 p.m., Rev. H. Bodily.	Whitehall, 11 a.m., Rev. Cowen Smith; 3 p.m., Rev. A. A. Knollys.
	Savoy, 11.30 a.m., Rev. C. H. Middleton; Wake, Assistant-Chaplain; 7 p.m., Rev. Edgar Sheppard, Minor Canon of St. George's, Windsor.
MONDAY, AUG. 20.	
Norwich New Hospital buildings to be opened by the Duke and Duchess of Connaught.	Blackcock shooting begins.
	Royal Albert Yacht Club Regatta.
TUESDAY, AUG. 21.—Races: York Meeting.	
WEDNESDAY, AUG. 22.	
Louis II., King of Bavaria, born, 1845.	Newport (Monmouth) Annual Regatta (two days).
THURSDAY, AUG. 23.	
Clitheroe Agric. Association Show.	Solent Yacht Club Regatta.
FRIDAY, AUG. 24.	
St. Bartholomew, apostle and martyr.	Moon's last quarter, 5.32 a.m.
SATURDAY, AUG. 25.	
M. Faraday, philosopher, discoverer of magneto-electricity, the chief source of the electric light, d. 1867.	Weymouth Regatta (three days).

THE WEATHER.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE KEW OBSERVATORY OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY.

Lat. 51° 25' 6" N.; Long. 0° 18' 47" W. Height above Sea, 34 feet.

DAY.	DAILY MEANS OF				THERMOM.		WIND.		General Direction.	Movement in 24 hours.	Rain in 24 hours, read at 10 a.m. next morning.
	Barometer Corrected.	Temperature of the Air.	Dew Point.	Relative Humidity.	Amount of Cloud.	Maximum, read at 5 p.m.	Minimum, read at 10 p.m.	Force.			
August 18	30.057	62.3	58.4	88	10	69.1	57.6	SW. WSW.	149	0.015	
19	29.869	62.2	52.9	73	7	68.0	59.7	WSW. W.	179	0.000	
20	29.971	61.2	45.1	64	5	70.1	54.2	W. WSW.	150	0.000	
21	29.712	57.0	53.6	80	9	61.0	51.2	WSW. SW.	417	0.165	
22	29.607	58.3	42.7	59	5	65.8	53.6	SW. WSW.	337	0.000	
23	29.604	57.8	45.1	65	7	65.7	49.8	WSW.	413	0.005	
24	29.935	59.6	46.5	66	7	65.6	51.9	WSW. W.	258	0.005	

* Dew.

The following are the readings of the meteorological instruments for the above days, in order, at ten o'clock a.m.:

Barometer (in inches) corrected	..	30.034	29.922	29.929	29.845	29.634	29.582	29.806
Temperature of Air	..	61.8°	63.9°	63.5°	61.9°	60.9°	59.8°	61.8°
Temperature of Evaporation	..	59.9°	59.9°	55.8°	55.2°	50.9°	51.6°	53.8°
Direction of Wind	..	SSW.	SW.	NNW.	SW.	W.	WSW.	W.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE

FOR THE WEEK ENDING AUGUST 25, 1883.

Sunday.		Monday.		Tuesday.		Wednesday.		Thursday.		Friday.		Saturday.	
M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A
h	h	h	h	h	h	h	h	h	h	h	h	h	h
2	2	2	2	3	3	4	4	4	5	5	6	6	6
10	10	50	30	30	10	13	35	55	18	40	26	28	47
2	30	3	10	3	52	4	35	5	18	5	40	6	47

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In consequence of numerous inquiries at the Office upon the subject, the Proprietors of this Journal beg to intimate that applications for Advertisements to be printed upon Sheets issued by The Interleaf or Leaflet Company, or bearing any other title, and said to be inserted in any portion of the issue of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, do not emanate from this Office, and that such Insertions are in no way connected with the Paper.

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President—His Royal Highness the Prince of WALES, R.G.

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Aug. 18 Dep. 11 25 a.m.	Dep. 11 35 a.m.	Arr. 12 20 p.m.
" 20 " 7 15 a.m.	" 7 30 a.m.	" 6 40 p.m.
" 21 " 8 10 a.m.	" 8 20 a.m.	" 6 40 p.m.
" 22 " 8 10 a.m.	" 8 20 a.m.	" 6 40 p.m.

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(By order)

J. P. KNIGHT, General Manager.

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For further particulars see bills.

London, August, 1883.

WILLIAM BIRT, General Manager.

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NEW INDEX TO VOL. LXXXII.

The New Index (consisting of Sixteen Pages) is now ready, price Fourpence. For Summary of Contents, see Advertisement, page 167.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON: SATURDAY, AUGUST 18, 1883.

The hospitalities of the City are happily not limited by the political views of the Lord Mayor for the time being, and so the Ministerial banquets at the close of the Session and in November go on continuously. Our national solidarity is well represented by the genial welcome thus given twice a year by the chief magistrate of the metropolis to the statesmen, whether Liberal or Conservative, who are charged with the grave duties of carrying on the government of the country and maintaining the honour of the United Kingdom in all parts of the world. Last week the reception of Ministers at the Mansion House was as cordial as upon any former occasion, although it was not rewarded by any remarkable display of post-prandial eloquence, or by the revelation of anything very new in the sphere either of foreign or domestic politics. Certainly it was morally gratifying to be assured that we had gone to Egypt with no selfish object, and that we should leave the country as soon as we had accomplished our work. Not less pleasing was it to be told that, in the light of fuller information, our relations with the French in Madagascar gave little or no cause for anxiety. But this was what everybody expected. Mr. Gladstone and his colleagues, however, if they had no startling announcement to make, could congratulate themselves upon having all but placed upon the Statute-Book measures which will strengthen and purify our political and commercial life.

The question of the duration of our stay in Egypt was raised more definitely in the House of Commons on the evening after the banquet by Mr. John Morley, who, whilst admitting that the answers of the Prime Minister to questions which had been put to him upon the subject were completely satisfactory as far as they went, desired to obtain a pledge from the Government that the British troops should be withdrawn directly the object for which they had been sent had been attained. In view of the losses sustained from cholera attacks by our little Army of Occupation, we should all be glad to hear that the evacuation of the country could be safely ordered. But we went to Egypt with the definite purpose of making the highway to India secure, and of placing it beyond the power of any mushroom patriot to arrest the social development of a country upon the con-

dition of which our own commercial prosperity so largely depends. Until those objects are attained we cannot leave, and the badgering of Ministers in reference to the matter by philosophical, or unphilosophical, Radicals can answer no good purpose. Mr. Gladstone, however, after a somewhat prolonged debate, although distinctly disclaiming on the part of the Government any inclination towards annexation, gave the House clearly to understand that no day could be named for withdrawal. Happily, the anxiety for the safety of our troops caused by the heavy mortality of the last three or four weeks will be diminished by the more recent reports, which show a steady decrease in deaths from cholera, both in the camps and in the chief centres of infection. But in Alexandria—which has hitherto enjoyed almost entire immunity—the disease has unhappily gained a firm footing.

A military rising in Spain was formerly so common, and a "pronunciamento" such an every-day affair, that the quietude and general lassitude which, since the accession of King Alfonso, have characterised Spanish politics, ceased long ago to appear natural. The would-be successors of O'Donnell and Prim have, however, apparently become aware of the fact that they have a reputation to gain, if not to lose; and the risings of Spanish garrisons are consequently being once more reported. The movement, we are glad to add for the sake of Spain, which sorely needs the recuperative influence of repose, does not seem to have been sustained by popular sympathy, and a large number of the mutineers have sought refuge in Portugal. The youthful King and Queen have exhibited considerable courage and spirit in the midst of difficulties which have been grave enough to lead to the temporary suspension of the constitutional rights of the people.

The element of romance certainly attaches to the career of Cetewayo. A week or so ago it was generally taken for granted that the assegai had given the quietus to his sable Majesty, and Usibepu seemed master of the situation. Cetewayo, however, it now turns out, only ran away to fight another day. He appears to have taken refuge in the Reserved territory while the pursuit was hot; but, according to some telegrams, he has succeeded in assembling a much larger force than that defeated at Ulundi, and is meditating another attack on Usibepu, who has returned home. Until Cetewayo or his formidable rival has conclusively proved himself to be the better man, peace is not likely to be restored to unhappy Zululand, which has been red with blood ever since Sir Bartle Frere let loose the dogs of war.

Another stern blow has been dealt at the Irish conspiracy by the conviction at Liverpool of four men who were conclusively proved to have manufactured dynamite in Cork, and to have brought it over to this country for the purpose of destroying public buildings. One of the miscreants, who had come from America, paid a visit to London, and was arrested shortly after he had been seen making careful observations, and taking notes, in the neighbourhood of the Houses of Parliament, the Treasury, and the Home Office. The prisoners were sentenced to penal servitude for life. We trust that their fate will help to deter others from joining secret societies, or becoming the agents of men like O'Donovan Rossa, who never venture themselves to cross the Atlantic. Too high praise cannot be awarded to the police, who by their intelligence and zealous performance of duty have frustrated the Fenian schemes, and made it increasingly hazardous to engage in them.

The Royal Commissioners, appointed two years ago last May to inquire into the constitution and working of the Ecclesiastical Courts, have issued their report. It embodies much conscientious work, but its recommendations are hardly likely to find favour with the laity of the Church of England. Should a clergyman be accused of clerical misconduct, of heresy, or of breach of ritual, the Commissioners would give to the Bishop of the diocese the power, if so inclined, to put an end to the suit at once. Should the case be allowed to proceed, and, after several appeals, a decision be ultimately given by a body of lay Judges in the final Court of Appeal, the Bishop of each diocese may still refuse to give effect to the decision within his own spiritual domain. Lord Coleridge protests as firmly as Lord Penzance against arming the Episcopate with these extraordinary powers.

A modicum of the brilliant sunshine and intense heat which have made walking through the streets of London a somewhat painful exercise during the last few days but for which farmers are so grateful is sadly wanted on the Scottish moors. Owing to the 12th falling on Sunday, the grouse had a day's grace granted to them; but drenching rain on Monday practically afforded them another. Some hardy sportsmen turned out here and there and contrived to bag a few brace; probably not more than one third of the birds shot on the opening day last year were brought down on Monday. In North Wales the weather was magnificent, and the sport excellent. The birds were plentiful, too, in North Derbyshire, and free from disease. Scottish sportsmen will envy the good luck of their Southern brethren.

ECHOES OF THE WEEK.

It is customary to sneer at, or to abuse as "sensational," the newspaper writers who publish detailed and graphic accounts of great disasters and calamities; and I have little doubt that the harrowing narratives given in some of the newspapers touching the dreadful fire and loss of life at the late Dr. Boyd's private lunatic asylum at Southall will afford another opportunity to stupid or spiteful people to have another fling at the "sensation-mongers." Sensible persons, however, may hold that it is of vital consequence to the public that every circumstance, however minute, bearing on the appalling calamity at Southall Park should be made known. Too much stress, for example, can scarcely be laid on the statement that the house used as a private lunatic asylum (and certificated as such, I presume, by the Commissioners in Lunacy) was an old Queen Anne's mansion built in 1702 for Sarah Jennings, Duchess of Marlborough. One of the papers says that the architect of Southall House was Sir Christopher Wren. At all events, it seems clear that the mansion was an old one, and that the rooms were profusely panelled with wood. One of the spectators of the fire declared (sensationally) that "the place burnt like so much tinder."

Next, I find in that unsensational journal the *Times* that it was shortly after two a.m. that the fire was discovered by one of the female attendants in the Asylum, and that about three a.m. the Hanwell fire-engine, a "steamer," arrived; but that, "owing to the short supply of water and its distance from the mansion, they were unable to get to work until the arrival of the Ealing Dean 'manual,' from which several lengths of hose were borrowed." "It is remarkable," adds my contemporary, "that, connected with an institution of such importance, there should have been so inadequate a supply of water; the nearest supply being from a shallow pond about a quarter of a mile from the house." Yes, it is truly remarkable; the more so when we remember that the Commissioners in Lunacy never fail (of course) to make a lynx-eyed survey of the means of protection against fire whenever they visit the asylums devoted to the detention of the most unfortunate and the most helpless of humanity.

There are, scattered about the country, hundreds of old seventeenth and eighteenth century manor houses and mansions, long since deserted by the county families, their whilom owners, which are now utilised as asylums, reformatories, industrial schools, refuges, and what not. The thorough overhauling of all these antique structures from the water supply and generally sanitary points of view might bring some very instructive information to light.

But here is something passing strange and almost of the nature of a coincidence. The fire at the private mad-house at Southall occurred between two and three a.m. on Tuesday morning. On Tuesday afternoon, in the Lords,

The Marquis of Lothian rose to call attention to the state of the military prison at Greenlaw, which, in his opinion, was in a most dangerous condition. It was built in 1808, entirely of wood, for the reception of French prisoners; and ever since it had received an annual coating of tar, which rendered it highly inflammable. The consequences of the place catching fire would be most disastrous, inasmuch as the building contained only one staircase, and the prisoners were locked up, so that their chance of escape would be very small. The water supply was absolutely nil, and there were no means whatever of extinguishing a fire if the building caught fire; though no amount of water would save it if it did catch fire. He had no doubt the noble Lord had made every inquiry; but he pressed it upon him that he should make every further inquiry that he could.

The Earl of Morley was glad to find that the question put by his noble friend had the single illustration of the prison to which he had referred. He could only assure his noble friend that he would take care that inquiries should be made, but he might add that there had been no complaints at the War Office.

The Duke of Buccleuch agreed with his noble friend as to the state of the prison in question, that if the building caught fire there would be no chance of extinguishing it. He had been through it, and a more unfit place he had never seen.

Southall Park Lunatic Asylum may be regarded, it is to be hoped, as "a single illustration" (as Lord Morley put it) of a private mad-house with a deficient water supply; and it is probable that "there had been no complaints" on the subject at the offices of the Lunacy Commissioners.

In that eminently decorous and substantial journal, the *Standard*, I read a letter from a gentleman whose mind seems to be terribly exercised at the action of the Lord Mayor of London, who, at the recent banquet at the Mansion House to her Majesty's Ministers, proposed the toast of "The Navy, Army, and Reserve Forces"; "thus reversing," to use the words of the *Standard's* correspondent, "the formula which has hitherto obtained, and thereby significantly pointing to the Navy as senior to the Army."

"Surely," continues the much-exercised-in-mind gentleman, "the Army is senior to the Navy. Long before any Navy existed on our shores, our Army had achieved fame. Kings of England formerly commanded the Army in person" (aye, if they had not done so they would not have been Kings of England at all); "and the eldest son of her Majesty the Queen is a Field-Marshal." The gentleman goes on to remark that, in the list of Cabinet Ministers, the name of the Secretary of State for War comes before the name of the First Lord of the Admiralty; and that our Army and Reserve Forces outnumber tenfold the roll of our sailors.

It appears to me that, from a social and convivial point of view, to toast the Navy before the Army is a piece of pedantic affectation. What are called the "loyal and patriotic toasts" are a comparatively modern institution, certainly not older than the accession to the throne of these realms of the House of Brunswick. Speech-making to toasts is a practice even more modern. In the seventeenth century loyal gentlemen drank the King's health on their knees; but they were generally by that time too tipsy to make or to listen to speeches afterwards. I fancy that, if a minute inquiry were made into the history of English public dinners, it would be found that toasts, combined with long-winded speeches, are not much

earlier than the Crown and Anchor and Thatched House Tavern days of the French Revolution. And I can well remember reading reports of public dinners held within the last fifty years at which the first toast was not the Sovereign singly, but "Church and King."

Still, ever since the epoch when "hoarse Fitzgerald" was wont to bawl "his creaking couplets in a tavern hall," the Army has come before the Navy—

It's a way we have in the Army,
It's a way we have in the Navy,
It's a way we have in the "Varsitie,"
To chase dull Care away.

That I hold to be a sufficient precedent, when it is remembered that "the loyal and patriotic toasts" have no antique origin. Still, historically, curiously enough, the Lord Mayor was quite right in toasting the Navy first. As a Service the Navy is very much the senior of the Army. I am just now at the side of the Sea, and have not brought my "Black Book of the Admiralty" with me; but turn up that bulky tome, and read what it has to say about the Custom of Oleron, and the still older "Custom of the Sea," long generations before the British Army existed. Crécy and Poitiers, Harfleur and Agincourt, were won by English soldiers under an English King, but not by the British Army. There was none at the time. The "Great Harry" and the "Henri Grâce de Dieu" were King's ships, but Henry VIII. had no regular army beyond his bodyguard of beefeaters. Mr. Pepys was Clerk of the Acts to the Admiralty, and he continually refers to the "Navy Office" in his "Diary"; but there was no War Office in his time. In the list of Cabinet Ministers the name of the Secretary of State for War may appear before that of the First Lord of the Admiralty; but the first-named Minister is a functionary officially not thirty years old. The office was created towards the close of the Crimean war. Previous to that period the military business of the country was transacted by the Secretary at War (not necessarily a Cabinet Minister), the Commander-in-Chief, and the Master-General of the Ordnance; whereas, we have had Lord High Admirals ever since the times of the Tudors.

Mem.: Rigorous pedants may contend that the Militia is, as a Service, senior to the Army. The Militia is the constitutional force, supremacy over which was claimed as an inalienable part of the prerogative of the Crown, in what were almost the last words of Charles I. The plain truth is, that the gallant service known as the British Army had its foundations laid by the establishment of the Household Troops at the Restoration, but was not placed on a permanent basis until the reign of William III. and the passing of the Mutiny Act. For all that, if I am ever called upon to take the chair at a public dinner I shall certainly, after the toasts of Her Majesty the Queen and the Prince and Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family have been received with the customary enthusiasm, rise to propose "The Army, the Navy, and the Reserve Forces."

When I fled from Nineveh, that great city, to abide chiefly in a Cave, which, from a certain mansion on the West Cliff, Brighton, passes under the King's-road, and discloses its arched entrance just above the beach with the bathing-machines and the capstans, and that famous holiday sailing barque, the Skylark, right ahead, I brought with me a few books; and among them I find the "366 Menus and 1200 Recipes of the Baron Brisse, translated by Mrs. Matthew Clark," of which a second edition (Sampson Low and Co.) has recently been published. To the perspicuity and variety of the Baron Brisse's menus and recipes, and to the lucidity and intelligence with which the work has been edited by Mrs. Edith Matthew Clark, an ample and well-deserved tribute has already been paid; but it is not this clever lady's fault if the Baron, in his "Order in which to serve Dinner," lays down a rule which is calculated to excite a feeling little short of distraction and desperation in the minds of young English housekeepers who wish to give their guests a scientifically ordered banquet. Here are the Baron's laws:—

Soups.
Small side dishes—viz., Sardines, Radishes, &c.
Melon.
Small hot side dishes—viz., stuffed olives, marrow-bones, &c.
Fish.
Joint.
Entrées of Meat, Fowl, and Game.
Cold Entrées.
Punch Ice.
Roast Chickens and Game.
Salad.
Dressed Vegetables.
Sweets.

With respect to the cold *hors d'œuvres*, they are usually served at English tables according to the fashion of the Russian *zakuska*—that is, before and not after the soup. A Frenchman likes his *hors d'œuvres* after his soup, for the reason that the cold side-dishes often comprise thin bread and butter; and the lively Gaul will not touch a morsel of bread before he has concluded his *potage*. Melon English people imagine to belong more to the dessert than to the beginning of the repast; and they are reluctant to season their melon with plenty of pepper, without which condiment the fruit may be very unwholesome. And they would stare with astonishment were marrow-bones to make their appearance at the earlier stages of a feast.

But the joint immediately following the fish! I am fully aware that the Baron Brisse has all the culinary *gros bonnets* of the past in his favour in decreeing that the *grosses pièces* should be served between the fish and the *entrées*; but I unhesitatingly declare the practice to be wholly at variance with English custom; and a hostess who gave her guests roast saddle of mutton, or any other joint, before the hot *entrées*, would be looked upon as either crassly ignorant or parcel-mad.

"From grave to gay, from lively to severe." There lie before me two letters displaying to an instructive extent the

qualities above named. Let us take the gay and lively communication first. "N. E." (Russell-square, Brighton) writes: "Can you define the difference between a flirt and a coquette?" Madame, I am ill qualified to answer such a question. I am old, and a fogey; and the ways of modern flirtation and coquetry may not be the ways of the past. But, a very long time ago (not when Plancus was Consul, but when Alderman Gibbs was Lord Mayor), we used to define the distinction between a flirt and a coquette thus:—A flirt is a flirt; and no young lady needs to be told what a flirt is. But a coquette is a flirt—and something else. A jilt to boot. A flirtation may be over in five minutes; nay, as I shall presently show, an act of flirtation may be accomplished in a single moment. A single transaction in coquetry may last half a life-time. The flirt amuses herself and you, and need not do any harm. The coquette breaks your heart, and then falls a laughing over the pieces. Dolly Varden was a flirt. Lady Clara Vere de Vere was a coquette.

But how about an act of flirtation with two distinct persons at the same time, to be completed in an instant? Well, the recipe is an American one. Time, twilight. A lady sits between two gentlemen. She softly squeezes the near hand of one gentleman, and she as softly treads on the near foot of the second swain. Try it; or, rather, don't try it.

Now for a grave and severe correspondent. "H. N. G.," Cambridge, writes:—

An esteemed correspondent desires you to catch schoolboys and test their possession of useful knowledge and their acquaintance with useful processes. Has he not betrayed his own need of enlightenment? One of his simple questions consists of the request to multiply 2s. 6d. by 3s. 9d. by decimals. May I ask him what the result is of such multiplication? There are not two dimensions in money. The request to multiply one amount by another is just as reasonable as the demand to square half a crown or to find the cube of a guinea. The late Professor de Morgan was continually calling attention to absurdities of a like character contained in books of arithmetic. In school-books of recent date they do not appear. 2s. 6d. may be multiplied by the number of shillings in 3s. 9d.—that is, by 375; but your correspondent's testing problem is one that all schoolboys should be taught to look upon as impossible.

When the Right Hon. George Canning was made Chancellor of the Exchequer, it is said that he confessed his incapacity to work out a sum in long division. Another correspondent, "X. Y." Lewes, writes wrathfully, "If your very smart correspondent had consulted any boy who had passed the Sixth Standard in one of the London Board Schools, he might have learnt, what he appears not to know—that it is the sheerest nonsense to talk of multiplying 2s. 6d. by 3s. 9d. I defy your correspondent to do it decimally, or any other way." Happy Board School boy who has passed the Sixth Standard!

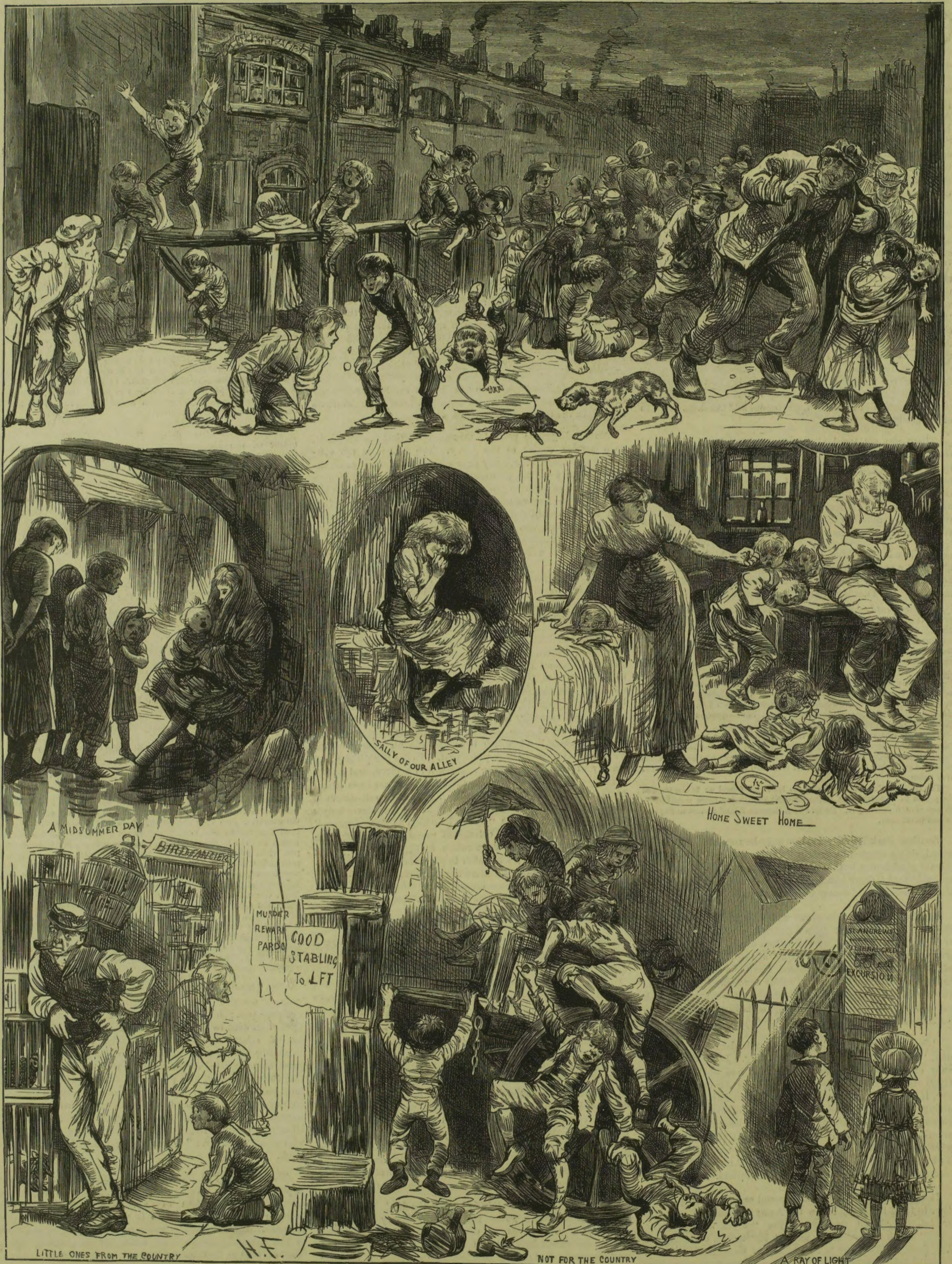
A remarkable trial took place at Gloucester, before Mr. Justice Butt, the other day, in which the issue turned on the custom of "Borough English" in the ancient city of Gloucester. By that custom, a Saxon one, the common law of the land is overridden, and the youngest and not the eldest son is the heir-at-law to real estate. The legal bearings of Borough English are well known; but an esteemed correspondent wishes to know whether I can tell him aught about the custom in its social aspect. This I am unable to do this week, being on the Beach, or rather in the Cave looking thereon, away from my bookshelves and commonplace books. But I will run up to Babylon next week, and try to hunt up something concerning Borough English socially.

Meanwhile, I have been reading the report of the trial, and was much edified by a passage relative to "beating the bounds" in the eloquent speech of Mr. Powell, Q.C., for the defendants:—

The boundaries of this city (Gloucester) were as well known, as carefully marked, and as often perambulated as those of any other locality in the kingdom. Not only were stones alive at this day to testify it, but from time immemorial, until a very recent period, these stones had been beaten and the boundaries perambulated periodically for the express purpose of keeping up the memory of the city boundary. There were those present who remembered, and would testify, when the doors of the Tolsey were thrown open once a year and the Mayor, with his Mace and Sword Bearers, and the Cap of Maintenance, which only the Cities of London, York, Gloucester, and Lincoln were permitted to bear; when its potent, grave, and reverend Aldermen, and Common Councilmen, and the *Happy Bluecoat Boys*, each of them with wand in hand, marched forth and threaded the streets, lanes, and alleys, climbed the walls, swam the river, passed through the houses which had encroached on the boundary-line, and beat their sticks to pieces upon the boundary-stones, each of which bore the letters "C. G.," which remained to this day, and were supposed to mean "City of Gloucester."

The Happy Blue Coat Boys of Gloucester! Not for one moment would I question their felicity, either in the present or in the past; but I would respectfully remind Mr. Powell, Q.C., that even so late as the middle of the last century the lot of school-boys employed in the annual function of "beating the bounds" was far from being a happy one. The procession consisted of the rector or the curate, in his cassock, the churchwardens, the parish beadle, and the boys of the local parochial school; and at each boundary-stone a wretched charity boy was laid down and soundly flogged "in order to impress the precise locality of the landmark on his memory." Of course, it was generally the naughtiest boys in the school who were "kept over" to be "memorialised" in Rogation week.

The learned and kind-hearted divine, Richard Hooker, popularly known as "the judicious," was a strict observer of the custom of annually perambulating the boundaries of his parish; but it would seem that he dispensed with the barbarous practice of whipping school-boys at the boundary-stones. At least, his biographer, Izaak Walton, tells us that Master Richard, in his perambulations, "would usually address more pleasant discourse than at other times, and would then always drop some loving and facetious observations to be remembered against the next year, especially by the boys and young people; still inclining them to meekness and mutual kindnesses and love." There can be little doubt that the "boys and young people" much preferred "loving and facetious observations" to the birch.—G. A. S.



A DAY IN TOWN.



A DAY IN THE COUNTRY.

HOLIDAY SKETCHES.

"Off for a Holiday," to many a hard-working citizen, in these days of summer verging upon autumn, signifies a welcome, a salutary, often a needful change of scene. It may be for a month, or a fortnight, or a week only; or it may be for a Long Vacation, which means nearly four months to some of the lawyers, and to some University tutors and students, and the masters in some public schools. "Off for a Holiday" is the title of one of this week's Illustrations; the scene of which is on board a steam-boat in a calm summer sea, in such weather, and in such conditions of wind and wave, that not even the least accustomed stomach of a sedentary landsman feels any qualm of apprehended disturbance from the vessel's uniform motion. It is pleasant, indeed, when the gentlest of fresh air serves but to cool the blood, and to brace the nerves, after the feverish excitement and following languor of town life. Sea air disposes the whole frame to enjoy the pure physical delights of its new position, the sunshine above and around, as well as the pure atmosphere, and the perfect dome of sky rising from an unbroken horizon, with the sense of swift and steady gliding across the pathless watery floor. This we all know to be a most agreeable combination, for the time, of sensations which unfortunately may too quickly be deranged by circumstances beyond the control of human art or science. But we heartily wish that the amiable reader who is encouraged, possibly, by our Illustration to commit his holiday fortunes to a short maritime trip, may suffer no revulsion of inward experiences on his outward or homeward passage—be it to the Channel Islands, to the Isle of Man, or coastwise to British ports of the eastern or western shores, or to those of France, of the Netherlands, of Germany, of Norway, of Iceland, or in any other direction where one must travel by sea.

"The Luxury of Idleness," which is a very innocent luxury, in well-earned holidays, when one has done the appointed work of one's calling, and feels rather worn out by the labours of past months, will now find its seasonable indulgence at the seaside, in many places along the coasts of this insular kingdom. Persons who love the aspects of the sea, but dread the effect of its heaving and rolling billows on the equilibrium of their alimentary organs, can take their limited share of marine enjoyment without going afloat. They can lie supine or gracefully recline on the soft sands of Shrimpton-super-Mare, with or without a book or a cigar, amongst the frolicking children, or pace the smooth promenade with dames and damsels of their company, and fancy themselves happier than in their city offices and shops. It is a lazy way of passing the holidays, and some there are who cannot endure it over the third day; to watch the boat-loads of hasty adventurers going off the beach, and returning sometimes in a less cheerful plight, the distant dippers beyond the row of bathing-machines, and the nearer gambols of wild little boys and girls at play on the sands; to observe the photographer, as at Hampstead Heath, tempting every young man and woman to get their portraits taken for a shilling; and to hear the strains of banjo music performed by a dressed-up minstrel girl from Clerkenwell; these are seaside recreations which soon pall on the taste of the idler from town. Old ladies and invalids in wheel-chairs are not more attractive objects to contemplate at Shrimpton than in Kensington Gardens; and the passing of white sails in the offing, though a pretty sight, is not more picturesque than the medley of ships, lighters, barges, and steam-tugs on the Thames from Wapping to Woolwich. The fact is, that it wants some personal effort and exhibition of energy to make a holiday really wholesome and enjoyable; the appropriate exercises of the seaside, above all the practice of swimming, are required in these days of idleness; and a good spell at the oar, for two or three hours in a chopping sea, will benefit the system more than a whole fortnight of lounging on shore. Bathing, if one can swim but fifty strokes, is best performed in deep water by a plunge from the stern of a boat, taking care to have a competent hand at the oar, and to have a short rope-ladder, or a simple loop of rope, attached to the boat for climbing in by. There are places, too, along the southern and western coasts, where a variety of pleasant rambles and scrambles, with very interesting scenery, may be sought in the cliffs. Hastings, the Isle of Wight, Swanage, Bournemouth, Seaton, Sidmouth, and all the coast of South Devon, present ample opportunities of this description. If the visitor is an early riser, as he ought to be, while his days of freedom continue, that he may make the most of them, let him go out, hours before breakfast, to see the fishing-boats come in, the discharge of their finny treasures from the nets, flapping in heaps on the beach, and the crowds of eager men and women hastening to buy or to sell. On the whole, it is questionable whether "the Luxury of Idleness," after the first long day of entire repose, is much to be commended at our maritime places of summer holiday resort. But let everybody be permitted to indulge his own harmless taste.

"A Day in Town," contrasted with "A Day in the Country," these two subjects being delineated on opposite pages, may be left to speak for themselves. The incidents here presented to view are superabundant in force of expression and suggestion; the Artist, in drawing these imaginary scenes and figures, has evidently been drawing a moral; he wishes to make it plain that poor folk who always stay in town are likely to be wretched, and perhaps more likely to be wicked, than people of the same class who are permitted to enjoy themselves, now and then, in the fields and woods, as we all like to do. It is, in short, a pictorial plea for excursion parties, cheap trips, Bank Holidays, Easter Holidays, and Whitsuntide Holidays, Early Closing Saturday Afternoons, school children's rural feasts, and every such beneficent provision to allow the toilers, drudgers, and grubbers of this great city a few hours' innocent freedom amidst the pleasant sights and the delightful sounds and scenes of summer, anywhere out of London—in Epping Forest, it may be, or on the breezy heights of Riddlesdown in Surrey, or on Hayes-common, or that of Plumstead, or at Abbey Wood, in Kent, or at Hampstead Heath or Hendon, or in some Park or meadow lent by a private owner—where the poor people, men, women, and children, may find consolation for life-long troubles in a brief taste of the kindness of Nature, so good and sweet to us all.

"Crisp's Cheerful Cottages" seem to be the last contrivance for improving the suburban dwellings of artisans in flats. Mr. Crisp's plan, as set forth in *Land*, is ingenious. He objects to one kitchen window overlooking that of the adjoining house (a universal practice) as a nuisance even where a fence intervenes; for what is thus gained in privacy is sacrificed in light and air. Mr. Crisp remedies this defect in his registered design. The window of the living kitchen is placed in the end of the back addition, and looks on to the garden, whilst the back kitchen, or, as it is generally termed, the washhouse, is at the side, diagonally fronting the side of the next house. He has a common approach to each pair of houses, as well as a back entrance. Mr. Crisp places the staircase rearwards out of the main building into the "addition," thus allowing the bed-rooms on each floor to be made of the same width as the parlours. He also gets one extra child's bed-room in each pair of houses, and an extra bed-room over the upper living kitchen in each house.

MUSIC.

The Promenade Concerts at Covent-Garden Theatre are pursuing a successful career. Last week's performances included a classical night, the first part of the programme having comprised several masterpieces, vocal and instrumental. The second classical night was given this week, with features of similar importance.

The Saturday evening concerts at the Crystal Palace are also prospering, the second of the series having taken place last week. Operas (in Italian and English) are to be given there—beginning on Aug. 21—under the direction of Mr. Richard Temple and Mr. Faulkner Leigh; and supported by some well-known artists.

The second of this year's provincial musical festivals will be that at Wolverhampton, which will closely follow the Gloucester Festival. Of this last-named celebration we have already given some details, and shall soon have to speak more fully, in anticipation of its commencement, on Sept. 4. The Wolverhampton performances—also held triennially—take place on Thursday and Friday, mornings and evenings, Sept. 13 and 14. The principal works to be performed are Mendelssohn's "Elijah," Beethoven's "Mount of Olives," Gounod's "Messe Solennelle," Hummel's motet, "Alma Virgo;" Sir G. A. Macfarren's "Lady of the Lake;" and Mr. Mackenzie's cantata, "Jason." The solo vocalists engaged are Misses A. Williams, M. Davies, and Emilie Lloyd; Madame Patey, Mr. E. Lloyd, Mr. J. Maas, Mr. F. King, and Signor Foli. There will be a band and chorus of about 300 performers, Dr. Swinnerton Heap being the conductor.

The third and last of this year's provincial festivals will be that held triennially at Leeds, beginning on the 10th October and closing on the 13th. As already stated, Sir G. A. Macfarren's new oratorio, "King David," will be produced there, as will be a cantata composed by Mr. A. Cellier to "Gray's Elegy," and a setting of the ninety-seventh Psalm ("Dominus regnavit") by Mr. Barnby—also novelties. Another interesting feature at the Leeds Festival will be the first performance in this country of the late Joachim Raff's "Symphony-Oratorio," entitled "The End of the World." Many standard works will also be included in the programmes. The solo vocalists engaged for Leeds are—Madame Valleria, Misses A. Williams, A. Marriott, Damian, and H. Williams; Madame Patey, Mr. E. Lloyd, Mr. J. Maas, Mr. Santley, Mr. F. King, and Mr. H. Blower. Sir Arthur Sullivan will again be the conductor.

MUSICAL PUBLICATIONS.

"Life of Handel," by W. S. Rockstro (Macmillan and Co.). This is an acceptable volume, being fuller in detail and better classified than M. Victor Schœcher's so-called life of Handel, which would properly be entitled "Mémoires pour servir" rather than a biography. It, however, contains much valuable information that was diligently collected by the enthusiastic French admirer of Handel. The bulky and diffuse life by Dr. Chrystander is not yet completed; and the volume which leads to these remarks is especially welcome. In addition to personal and artistic narrative, and critical comments, it contains a catalogue of Handel's works, chronologically arranged, a facsimile of his handwriting, the genealogical tree of the Handel family, and a portrait of the composer; and is preceded by a prefatory notice of Sir George Grove, and supplemented by a copious index. Although open to question in some matters of opinion and fact, the book is yet an acceptable addition to musical biography.

"The Great Musicians—Mozart," by Dr. F. Gehring. This little book forms one of the series of volumes edited by Dr. Hueffer and published by Messrs. Sampson Low and Co. The memoir, comparatively brief as it is, is very comprehensive, beginning with an account of the Mozart family, and tracing the career of the composer from childhood to death. The details, personal and artistic, are full of interest, and a copious list of contents facilitates reference to the various subjects. To those who have not the greater work of Otto Jahn, the one now referred to will be very acceptable.

"The Musician; a Guide for Pianoforte Students," by Ridley Prentice (Swan-Sonnenschein and Co.). Within a small compass much useful information is here comprised. The young pianist is led through a progressive course of study, the music assigned gradually increasing in difficulty and importance, analyses being given to aid the comprehension of the composer's design.

"Old Folks," song, by A. M. Layard, and "When I sing my own song," ballad, by O. Barri, are both melodiously expressive and simple in style. They are published by Messrs. R. Cocks and Co. The same publishers have issued some pianoforte pieces that will be welcome to young students. Mr. G. F. West has arranged an effective paraphrase of themes from Mendelssohn's "Elijah," and Cotsford Dick has produced a spirited "Bolero," both these being for one performer; Mr. M. Watson's "Cynthia," a characteristic piece in the old English dance style, issued as a solo and a duet.

"Morley's Voluntaries, for the Organ, Harmonium, or American Organ," Book I., contains thirteen short pieces, in various styles, composed by H. J. Stark, and well suited for the instruments named. Messrs. W. Morley and Co. have also issued the twelfth number of their magazine, being the fourth piano album, containing movements adapted from the works of past and present composers.

"My Lass," an expressive song, in the sentimental style, by Ciro Pinsuti; "Anchored," a spirited sea-song, by M. Watson; "Grandfather," and "My Old Love-Letters," songs of the ballad class, by J. Ridgway, are published by Mr. B. Williams, as are "Classical Extracts from Corelli," with pianoforte accompaniment, arranged by J. Pridham.

Mr. W. Czerny publishes, under the title of "Pleasant Pastime," six easy duets for two violins, arranged from various sources by O. Wagner. These will be useful to young amateurs of the instrument. The same publisher issues an expressive setting, by Lady Ramsay, of Bamf, of Shakespeare's lines, "Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?" a very pleasing song, "Like the lark," by Franz Abt, and "Fond and firm," a song, by E. H. Seymour, the merits of which secured for it the award of the first prize out of the surplus of the Balfe memorial fund at Dublin. Mr. W. Czerny also publishes a very graceful pianoforte piece, by J. B. Wekerlin, entitled "Chansonette de la Bouquetière."

"Fantasia for the Pianoforte," by H. C. Banister (Stanley Lucas, Weber, and Co.), is an elaborate piece, containing some skilful and effective writing, and evincing a sound acquaintance with the old and modern schools.

The ceremony of presenting a drinking-fountain to the inhabitants of Swaffham and unveiling a bust of the late Sir W. Bagge, Bart., in recognition of his services as one of the members for West Norfolk for the long period of thirty-six years, was on Monday performed by Lord Walsingham, the colleague of the hon. Baronet in the representation of the division from 1865 to 1871. The bust is by Thornycroft.

CITY ECHOES.

WEDNESDAY.

The disorganisation in the market for American railway securities has become more marked since I last wrote. On Saturday a veritable panic prevailed, prices falling 1 to 5 dol., and closing at their worst. The immediate cause of the breakdown was the announcement of the suspension of the First National Bank of Indianapolis and of the Indiana Banking Company. Both undertakings were comparatively small; but as they followed the failure of a Bank and Trust Company at Vermont, which, again, had been preceded by a series of mercantile failures in Boston and other quarters, a feeling of anxiety amounting to actual alarm was created on this side. A week or so since I drew attention to the causes that have contributed to the present instability of affairs in the United States, and my readers will therefore have been prepared in a measure for the turn just taken by affairs. It is, of course, impossible to say what extension these troubles may undergo, but it may well be doubted if we are on the eve of witnessing a breakdown of anything like the dimensions of the crisis of 1873, and this morning's telegrams show some rebound.

My main reason for thinking that the present depression in the market for American railways is nearing its end, is the fact that the fall has now been in progress so long, and has resulted in so severe a depreciation, that there is left little room for any further paring down of values. A moment like the present is certainly not the one for selling. Rather is it an opportunity for those investors who purchased at much higher prices to increase their holdings, in order to average. To sell now would merely be to aid a movement that is largely the work of "bear" operators, who were shrewd enough to perceive some months ago the weak points of the situation, and whose speculative transactions have without doubt largely contributed to the result we now see. When these gentlemen come to learn that the adverse movement has about spent itself, they will, as usual, hurry to close their engagements and thus stimulate a sharp recovery. Things may, it is true, become worse before this stage is reached, but affairs have now become so bad that those who have waited for a favourable turn would be acting unwisely to abandon hope and throw away their property. The process of liquidation now going on in speculation in the United States is essential to the establishment of a healthy and sound condition of business, and the application of the remedy, sharp and painful as it may be, should prove a source of encouragement and not despondency to the real investor.

It need hardly be pointed out that the fall in the value of Canadian undertakings of nearly all classes is intimately connected with the weeding out of an unhealthy speculation in the United States. That fall is unquestionably being carried, as usual in such circumstances, to extreme lengths. In regard to the land companies in the North-West of the Dominion, whose shares have continued to recede, it begins to be confessed even by those who were recently decrying them in no unmeasured language, that the position is better than they affected to believe a short time ago, and, to take one example out of several others, they point to Hudson's Bay shares at their present reduced level as offering a favourable opportunity for investors to make advantageous purchases. The harvest prospects in the North-West are certainly good, and this will go far to relieve the state of tension that has overtaken business in Winnipeg and other quarters. The immigration movement, far from slackening, is undergoing a steady and vigorous expansion, and in this one circumstance alone traders, who recently ran somewhat ahead of the general wants of the consuming classes, may find a ready way out of their present somewhat embarrassing position. A revival of the late speculation in land, which did so much to engender false views as to the actual position of affairs in the Dominion, and to bring about an undue elation, is neither to be expected nor desired. The steady settlement of the country can only be fostered by offers of land on terms within the means of the new comers. These are offered by the several land companies, whose estates are in particularly well favoured districts, and as time goes on they will be more and more taken advantage of.

Home Railway Stocks have of late been somewhat drooping in price, rather, however, in sympathy with the fall in the American market and the unsatisfactory condition of the foreign department than as a result of circumstances directly affecting the Railway Companies as a class. The first batch of dividends was rather discouraging, but those lately announced on the "heavy" lines have, as a rule, been fairly satisfactory. The weather during the last few weeks was against the business of those companies whose main source of revenue was from the carriage of passengers, but there has of late been a tendency to make good lost ground in this respect. Nevertheless, the largest expansion continues to be in the receipts from goods, and, while this continues, we are forced to conclude that a large amount of trade is being done throughout the country, not very remunerative, perhaps, to the traders, yet paying enough to the railway companies, who must now be benefiting not only from the large business thrown into their hands, but also from the low prices of materials of various kinds. Assuming that the harvest turns out equal to last year, the position will undergo a material improvement. For the moment this matter is somewhat doubtful; yet there is a good prospect that, in one way or another, the bulk of the railway companies will be able to make good in the current half-year much of the ground lost during the first six months.

The military risings in various parts of Spain which led to so severe a collapse in the Four per Cent Bonds on Thursday and Friday, form one, among others, of those political incidents for which investors in Spanish bonds must always be on the alert. The present movement was abortive, for the reason that the mass of the people happened to be in an inert and apathetic mood; but there can be no doubt that there is an undercurrent of feeling among various classes of the Spanish population, more particularly those in the agricultural districts, that might on occasion become a source of some danger. The late movement in collapsing so quickly seems, however, to offer some guarantee against an early outbreak of political violence, and, as time goes on, the more Liberal régime under which the country is now governed has a chance of taking deeper root and narrowing the area of discontent. T. S.

The forty-fourth anniversary meeting of the Royal Botanic Society of London was held yesterday week at the office of the society in the gardens, Regent's Park. The total receipts for the year amounted to £6651. The summer exhibitions continue to maintain their standard of excellence, that of June being particularly rich in orchids; and the large and ever increasing number of new plants or new horticultural varieties of old favourites, brought forward for certificates of merit, illustrates the value of these exhibitions in the encouragement of the importation and culture of plants, especially those of new varieties. Last year nearly 60,000 cut specimens of plants were gratuitously distributed by the society for the purpose of study; and free admissions of from one to six months were granted to 836 students and artists.

THE SILENT MEMBER.

That some of the most prominent of our peers are good hands at draughting leases has been abundantly evident in the recent discussions of the English and Scottish Agricultural Holdings Bills in the House of Lords. A keen eye—in a shallow way—after their own interests had a few of the noble Lords who proposed amendment after amendment to the measures which are to legally entitle agricultural tenants in England and Scotland to compensation for the improvements they have effected. While it was impossible to avoid noticing the canniness thus evinced, some degree of admiration may be allowed for the business-like faculty of their Lordships, who occupied no more than one full sitting on the 10th inst. in considering and amending in Committee the numerous clauses of the English Agricultural Holdings Bill. The Duke of Richmond secured the adoption of an amendment, not unreasonable in itself, to the effect that a tenant should not be compensated for any increased value due to the natural productiveness of the soil. The Marquis of Salisbury carried another amendment to prevent tenants from claiming compensation disallowed by any existing agreements with their landlords. Several alterations of a like character ensued, Lord Carlisle gallantly doing battle for the original principle of the measure, but being opposed resolutely by the Marquis of Salisbury. The bill was reported at one o'clock in the morning. Having regard to the prolonged period of agricultural depression which has disheartened farmers and landlords alike, a generous reception of this ameliorative measure would assuredly have been both politic and just on the part of the majority of the peers. But this is not the first time their Lordships have been led astray by the Marquis of Salisbury, whom Sir James Caird had on Wednesday to bring to book (in a letter to the *Times*) for some injurious references to himself in debate. The Commons are bound to take exception to some of their Lordships' amendments—with the probable result that the noble Leader of the Opposition will be again compelled to swallow the leek.

The Lords began the week, chiefly at the instigation of the Earl of Wemyss and the Duke of Argyll, in similarly narrowing the scope of the Scottish Agricultural Holdings Bill, which was in Committee "amended" in the same illiberal fashion. On Tuesday a few further changes were made in the English Bill on the report, and the third reading ordered for Thursday.

Since the Prime Minister made, in glowing after-dinner phraseology, the reassuring allusion at the Mansion House to the relations of England with France, some degree of reticence and reserve has been evidenced in the Ministerial replies of Mr. Gladstone and Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice to the queries respecting the unfortunate occurrences at Tamatave. But, whatever impediments to a satisfactory settlement of Malagasy differences may have arisen, there is good reason to believe the conversations of Earl Granville and M. Waddington at the Foreign Office will restore a proper understanding between the two countries.

Sharply observant of the manners and customs of the House ever since he was chosen colleague of Mr. Joseph Cowen, Mr. John Morley has diligently sought to qualify himself for the seat on the Treasury bench which will, in all probability, one day be his. There has been more of the tone of the friendly commentator than of the candid friend in the suggestions he has thrown out to the Government with regard to the conduct of affairs in South Africa and in Egypt. The debate on Egypt originated by Mr. Morley on the 9th inst. was somewhat superfluous, seeing that it only elicited from Sir Charles Dilke and the Premier a repetition of what Mr. Gladstone had explicitly stated on the previous Monday. This was the determination of the Ministry to withdraw our troops from Egypt the moment the new Egyptian Government was strongly organised enough to maintain order. The clear and decisive reiteration of this resolution by the Prime Minister, however, contrasted advantageously for the Government with the views of Mr. Bonrke and Sir Stafford Northcote, who favoured a prolonged military occupation of Egypt, evidently with a prospect of ultimate annexation.

Sir Henry James and Mr. Chamberlain have reason to plume themselves. On the 10th inst. the Attorney-General had the satisfaction to hear a burst of cheering at the passing of the Corrupt Practices Bill, in pressing forward which he has exhibited unflinching tact and patience. Albeit a small band of Parnellite members on Saturday last induced Mr. Gladstone to withdraw the proposal to extend the Bankruptcy Bill to Ireland, the measure of Mr. Chamberlain is practically safe for England. On Tuesday, amid general felicitations, the Bankruptcy Bill was read the third time and passed; and the President of the Board of Trade was deservedly congratulated on the great work accomplished in the successful consideration of so complicated and voluminous a measure in Grand Committee. As a reward, Mr. Chamberlain has the prospect of spending the Recess in weighing the claims of the numberless applications for billets in the Bankruptcy branch of the Board of Trade to be created under the Act, the honorariums for which will vary from £200 to £1500 a year, as he incautiously admitted on Tuesday.

The Attorney-General for Ireland had the perverid followers of Mr. Parnell on the hip last Monday, when he expressed the wish that their "eloquent indignation" had been aimed against the criminals whose misdeeds they all deplored. The skirmish occurred in Committee of Supply on the vote for criminal prosecutions in Ireland, which Mr. Healy, Mr. Harrington, Mr. O'Shea, Mr. Cowen, Mr. O'Kelly, and Mr. O'Brien made the pretext for a general attack on the operation of the Crime Prevention Act. Sir Arthur Otway had repeatedly to call the excited orators to order. But the lava-like flow of Hibernian oratory gave Mr. Trevelyan a good opportunity of winding up the debate with one of the sound, common-sense speeches which are not infrequently required to expose the fallacies that stream from the glib tongues of the most loquacious Home-Rule members. There was a cool rejoinder from Mr. Parnell, who could naturally see naught that was good in Lord Spencer's admirable administration of Irish affairs. Nevertheless, the Irish votes were passed. On Tuesday, there was a happy absence of Hibernian asperity in the consideration of two Irish Bills. Mr. Gibson's effort to bring about the rejection of the Irish Parliamentary Registration Bill was defeated; and the clauses were agreed to. And the Irish Tramways and Public Companies Bill was read the second time, after Mr. Parnell had suggested to the Secretary for Ireland that £100,000 should be devoted to the promotion of migration and emigration.

The Ministerial Whitebait dinner at Greenwich on Wednesday peradventure offered particular solace to Sir William Harcourt, the Home Secretary having been considerably badgered during the afternoon over the Scottish Local Board Bill, which reached Committee, however, some of its clauses being agreed to.

The Lord Lieutenant of Ireland has signified his intention of visiting the county of Antrim, on the 14th of next month, for the purpose of inaugurating the Electric Railway connecting Bushmills and the Giant's Causeway.

THE COURT.

The Queen has had various members of her family around her during the regatta season. The Grand Duke of Hesse and his daughters, Princesses Victoria, Elizabeth, and Irene, are still at Osborne. The Prince and Princess of Wales, with Princesses Louise, Victoria, and Maud, the Hereditary Princess of Saxe-Meiningen, Prince Louis of Battenberg, and Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, have visited her Majesty, either lunching or dining with her. The Duke and Duchess of Connaught have been several days at Osborne during the yachting, in which all the Royal family take a lively interest. The Grand Duke and the Princesses of Hesse were at the Cowes Regatta yesterday week, on the steam-launch of the Royal yacht, and on Saturday joined the Prince and Princess of Wales on board the Osborne to witness the Portsea Corinthian Yacht Club Regatta in Osborne Bay. Her Majesty and the Royal family attended Divine service on Sunday, performed at Osborne by the Rev. Canon Boyd, who joined the Royal dinner circle. Princess Beatrice arrived from Aix-les-Bains on Tuesday, having crossed from Havre to Cowes in her Majesty's ship *Enchantress*. Sir Frederick Leighton, President of the Royal Academy, with Mr. F. A. Eaton, Secretary, has had an audience of the Queen; and Mr. Alfred Tennyson, Poet Laureate, has had a private interview with her. The usual daily drives have been taken by her Majesty with the Royal family.

A telephone is being fitted up between Ballater and Balmoral Castle, the wire to be in working order by the 25th inst., the date at present fixed for the arrival of the Court in the Highlands.

The Grand Cross of the Bath has been conferred upon Sir Augustus Paget and Sir Edward Thornton; and the Royal Red Cross has been conferred upon several nursing sisters.

The Queen has sent a picture of herself for the sergeants' mess of the regimental district of Glencorse, in commemoration of her father having served in the Scots Guards.

Last Saturday was passed by the Prince and Princess of Wales at the Royal Portsea Corinthian Yacht Club Regatta in Osborne Bay, which was witnessed by the Queen from the terrace at Osborne. The Princess of Wales, with her daughters and various relatives and friends, was on board the Osborne, the Prince taking an active part in the proceedings, his yacht *Aline* being in position near the committee-vessel. His Royal Highness's yacht *Belle Lurette* won two races. After taking leave of her Majesty at Osborne on Monday, the Prince and Princess, with their daughters and the Hereditary Princess of Saxe-Meiningen and Prince Louis of Battenberg, left for Marlborough House, and in the evening the Princess, with Prince Albert Victor (who had arrived from Sandringham) and the Princess of Saxe-Meiningen and Prince Louis of Battenberg, went to see "The Streets of London" at the Adelphi Theatre. Their Royal Highnesses were visited at Marlborough House on Tuesday by Prince and Princess Christian, the Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, and the Duke and Duchess of Teck, to take leave. The Duke of Connaught was at Charing-cross station in the evening, when the Royal party arrived to take their departure for the Continent, the Duke and Duchess of Teck and various friends being present. A special train left at 8.7 for Dover, conveying the Prince and Princess of Wales, with Princesses Louise, Victoria, and Maud, the Hereditary Princess of Saxe-Meiningen, the Duke of Cambridge, and Prince Louis of Battenberg. The Royal travellers crossed in the *Invicta* to Calais, whence they proceeded via Brussels to Cologne, where they separated, the Princess and her daughters proceeding by the Bremen and Hamburg route to Lubeck, there embarking on board the Danish yacht for Copenhagen, where their Royal Highnesses have apartments in the Bernstorff Schloss. The Prince and the Duke of Cambridge went by Frankfurt to Homburg, the Hereditary Princess of Saxe-Meiningen travelled to Berlin, and Prince Louis of Battenberg to Mayence.

Mr. Samuel Carter has submitted to the Prince and Princess his picture of the West Norfolk Hunt, which is to be presented to Mr. Anthony Hamond (the late master) on his retirement.

Princess Christian and the Duchess of Connaught took part in a concert given last Saturday afternoon at Ascot in aid of the fund for completing St. Anne's Church, Bagshot; Signor Tosti conducted.

The Duke of Connaught is gazetted Major-General on the Staff of the Army in India, to command a division in the Bengal Presidency, vice Lieutenant-General Sir R. O. Bright, whose period of service in that appointment is about to expire. His Royal Highness and the Duchess will attend a concert to be given in St. Andrew's Hall, Norwich, on behalf of the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital Bazaar Fund, next Monday.

The Duke and Duchess of Albany were received at Potsdam by their German Majesties on Tuesday.

The Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz left St. James's Palace on Tuesday for Westgate-on-Sea, to join the Hereditary Grand Duke and Grand Duchess and their children.

FASHIONABLE MARRIAGES.

The marriage of Lord Elcho, M.P., eldest son of the Earl of Wemyss, with Mary Constance, eldest daughter of the Hon. Percy Wyndham, M.P., took place in St. Peter's Church, Eaton-square, by special license, on the 9th inst. Prince Christian attended the ceremony. There were eight bridesmaids—viz., the Misses Madeline and Pamela Wyndham, sisters of the bride; Miss C. and Miss E. Pelly, Lady Eva Bourke, Miss Margaret Burne-Jones, and the Hon. Mary Wyndham. The Hon. Alan Charteris acted as best man to his brother. Among the numerous wedding presents was a silver-gilt bowl, a gift from Princess Christian.

The marriage of Lord Windsor with Miss Alberta Victoria Sarah Caroline Paget, only daughter of Sir Augustus Paget, the late British Ambassador at Rome, was celebrated last Saturday morning at St. Paul's Church, Knightsbridge. The bridesmaids were Misses Georgina, Henrietta, and May Windsor Clive, sisters of the bridegroom; Miss Jolliffe and Miss Alberta Paget, cousins of the bride; and Miss Mary Ellis. The Hon. Hugh Amhurst acted as best man for Lord Windsor, his cousin. Among the presents were an Indian shawl and a handsomely-framed photograph of the donor from the Queen; a large enamel pendant with cat's-eye, gold and pearl chain from the Prince and Princess of Wales; and a large sapphire anchor from the Queen of Italy. The presents from Lord Windsor to the bride included a magnificent diamond suite.

The marriage of Lady Agnes Douglas, youngest daughter of the late and sister of the present Earl of Morton, with Colonel Sir Owen Burne, K.C.S.I. and C.I.E., of the India Office, took place at St. George's Church, Hanover-square, on the 9th inst. The bridegroom was attended by Major Gregory, late 15th Hussars, and the bridesmaids were Miss Rolle, Miss Mary Rolle, Miss Katherine Gordon, and Miss Gertrude Burne.

The marriage of Mr. Robert J. Kennedy, second secretary of the British Embassy at Constantinople, with the Hon. Bertha Jane Ward, daughter of Viscount Bangor, was celebrated in Ballycutter church, near Castleward, county Down,

Viscount Bangor's residence, on the 9th inst. The bridesmaids were the Hon. Kathleen Ward, Miss Kennedy, the Hon. Emily Ward, Miss Geraldine Mahon, Miss Louise Mahon, and Miss Gertrude Head. The presents to the bride were very numerous, and amongst them was a massive gilt centrepiece, presented by the members of the British Embassy at Constantinople.

The marriage of Lieutenant-Colonel H. Lascelles, youngest son of the late Right Hon. W. Sebright and Lady Caroline Lascelles, with Miss Caroline Maria Gore, youngest daughter of the Hon. Charles Gore and the Countess of Kerry, took place on Tuesday at Wimbledon parish church. The bride was attended by the following bridesmaids:—Miss Grenfell, Miss Clementina Ponsonby, Miss Margaret Herbert, Miss Kate Gore, and Miss Violet Ogilvy.

The marriage of the Hon. Charles Bertram Bellew, eldest son of Lord Bellew, with Mildred Mary Josephine, eldest daughter of Sir Humphrey de Trafford, was celebrated in the Catholic Church, All Saints', Manchester, on the 8th inst.

The marriage which has been arranged between the Lady Leicester Philippa Stanhope, second daughter of the late Earl of Harrington, and Mr. W. Sharp Waithman, of Merlin Park, county Galway, will take place in the course of the ensuing month, but will be quite private, owing to a recent family affliction.

THE EARTHQUAKE IN ISCHIA.

We present, in the middle pages of this sheet, a series of illustrations of the terrible effects of the earthquake on Saturday, the 28th ult., which entirely destroyed the town of Casamicciola, and part of Lacco Ameno and Forio, the neighbouring villages, causing the death of nearly four thousand persons, amongst whom were several English visitors to that favourite place of summer sojourn in the Bay of Naples. Our readers will have been made sufficiently familiar with the details of this great calamity by the accounts which have already been published; but they should be reminded, with reference to these illustrations, that the building in which the English ladies and gentlemen, numbered among the victims of the overwhelming disaster, were crushed by the falling ruins, was the Hotel of the Piccola Sentinella, otherwise called the Grand Hotel des Etrangers. It was in the saloon of this hotel, at half-past nine in the evening, that a dozen or more of our unfortunate countrymen and countrywomen, with about one hundred and twenty others, Italians, French, and Germans, were assembled to listen to an amateur concert. A young gentleman from Wales, Mr. Arthur Llewellyn Struve, who was staying there with his mother, sat at the pianoforte in the act of playing Chopin's Funeral March; and his performance was to have been immediately followed by an English young lady, Miss Robertson, singing a song to which he would have played the accompaniment. Mrs. Struve and her son, Mrs. and Miss Robertson, Mr. J. P. Green, a retired Judge of the Bombay High Court, and Charles Barff, a boy of thirteen, son of the Rev. Mr. Barff, English Chaplain at Naples, were instantly killed by the sudden fall of the house, and their dead bodies were afterwards dug out of the heaps of ruins. Colonel Mackenzie, in the same hotel, lay seven hours amongst the rubbish of the building, with heavy stones upon his legs and feet, so that he could not rise, but was extricated without very serious injury. An interesting personal narrative of his sufferings has appeared in the *Times*. Dr. Stoddard, Mrs. Green, and Mrs. Barff, with her daughter and one of her sons, fortunately escaped the fate of their friends who were killed. Among the others who perished by this disaster were some of the Roman and Neapolitan nobility, the Marchesa Laureati, the Marchesa Amoroso-Cafora and her daughter, the President del Monte, Captain Tuppiti and his daughters, Signor Aravani and his wife, a son of the Duca Calabritto, and a daughter of the Baroness Riscis. The natives of the town, who usually go to bed early, were, for the most part, killed in their own houses; and in hundreds of cases their bodies have not been recovered, as it has been found necessary to throw quicklime over the remains, in order to avoid a pestilence. Several hundred people were assembled in a temporary wooden theatre to witness a dramatic performance; the canvas roof was torn asunder, but the sides of the building remained, being of timber, and few of the people in it were much hurt. The labours of the Italian Minister of Public Works, Signor Genala, from the day after the disaster till now, both in directing the engineers and others employed to rescue those buried alive, and to get out some of the bodies of the dead, as well as in superintending the relief of a multitude of houseless and destitute families, have been noticed in former accounts. The King of Italy, with the Ministers of the Interior and of War, and Signor Depretis, the Prime Minister, were on the island all day, on Wednesday, the 1st inst., visiting every part of the scene of this calamity, and doing all that could be done to alleviate the woes of the afflicted people. The Ministry of War, however, is severely blamed for a mistaken tardiness in sending parties of soldiers to assist in the work. We are indebted to a Naples correspondent, Madame R. Micheli, for sending us the sketches and photographs which have furnished our present illustrations, and for some additional particulars of this lamentable affair, which has scarcely been exceeded in horror by any similar occurrence in Southern or Western Europe since the great earthquake of Lisbon.

The coming of age of Viscount Weymouth, eldest son and heir of the Marquis of Bath, was on Saturday last, as on the two preceding days, celebrated by village rejoicings on the Longleat estates in Wiltshire. About 1000 invitations to a fête in the park on the 21st inst. have been issued.

During the Long Vacation the central hall and such of the courts of the Royal Courts of Justice as can conveniently be shown will be open from eleven to three daily, Saturday excepted. On Mondays and Thursdays admission will be by ticket, which can be obtained at the superintendent's office, Room 466, Strand entrance; and on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays the public will be admitted without tickets.

The sum total realised by the eight days' sale of the library of the late Sir Richard Colt Hoare, and commonly known as the Stourhead heirlooms, was £10,028. The sale, which took place at the rooms of Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson, and Hodge, embraced some of the choicest works of British topography, rare books of prints and water-colour drawings, and a large number of engravings, including portraits and topographical views.

A meeting representing many of the most prominent religious societies in London was held yesterday week in the committee-room, Exeter Hall, to consider and make arrangements for the fourth centenary of the birth of Martin Luther, the Hon. Captain Hobart-Hampden in the chair. It was decided, in recognition of the importance of the subject, to form an organisation for the United Kingdom to commemorate the work of the great Reformer, and to promote union among the branches of the Protestant family in the maintenance of principles alike common and dear to them all.



1. Hotel of the Piccola Sentinella (Hotel des Etrangers), Casamicciola, before the earthquake. 2. Entrance to the hotel. 3. The same hotel, after the earthquake. 4. Piazza Mangia, Casamicciola, in ruins. 5. Lago Amero. 6. Strada Garibaldi, Casamicciola. 7. Villa Barbieri. 8. Wooden theatre. 9. Ruins of the Piccola Sentinella.

"A DUTCH SEASIDE RESORT."

In this picture, by Mr. G. H. Boughton, A.R.A., some inhabitants of a village of fishermen on the North Sea Coast are found loitering by the shore, and curiously watching the family party of newly-arrived English visitors, who have emerged from their inn to look about them, while apparently discussing their plans for a day's amusement. A boy and girl, carrying between them a laden basket, are coming up from the seaside; and two or three boats, of that peculiar form and rig which may be seen any day in our river, among the Dutch craft bringing eels to the wharf at Billingsgate, are lying close alongside. The quaint details of costume, in the women and children, and the clumsy wooden shoes worn by all these people, will at once strike the observer; but this picture has also the merit of characteristic expression in the faces and gestures, which betray a mixture of curiosity with the scornful affectation of indifference to the foreigners, in the minds of rude and ignorant folk. Visitors of a different nationality have till of late years been seldom visible to the unsophisticated dwellers on that part of the coast; but there are some favourite places of resort, such as Schevingen, close to the Hague, which attract much fashionable company. Further north, along the shores of that singular peninsula between the ocean and the Zuyder Zee, which lies almost entirely at a level below the surrounding waters, and is protected on both sides by dunes of sand or by artificial dykes, the people are farmers, herdsmen, or dairy-men, makers of cheese and butter, who have little acquaintance with the ways of European tourists. They are, nevertheless, an honest, kindly, good-natured race, however uncouth and awkward in manner, and the Dutch character has sterling virtues of its own, which would be appreciated better by a more intimate knowledge of the people.

PARISIAN SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

Paris, Tuesday, Aug. 14.

The present summer is truly irritating: you endure in the country or at the seaside day after day of rain; in disgust you return to the unique town, the universal Paris, and you find blazing sunshine and torrid heat. In the way of novelty there is very little at Paris except the heat. The streets are full of foreigners of all nations, Arab chiefs, Burman ambassadors, colossal vehicles laden with Cook's tourists, little folk, boys and girls, dressed in their Sunday best, their hair curiously frizzled and bound with crowns of paper laurels, and in their hands gaudy prize-books. On Sunday the Parisians, the real people of Paris, turned out in thousands to witness the unveiling of the monument of the defence of Paris, which has at length been erected at the end of the Avenue de la Grande Armée, on the pedestal where, until 1870, the statue of Napoleon I. used to dominate Paris. The group, executed by the sculptor Louis Barrias, represents Paris as a stalwart young woman clad in the garb of the National Guard, holding in one hand the national flag, and with the other supporting a wounded Mobile. This innovation in costume is a happy relief from the usual commonplaceness of allegorical groups. The press comment severely on the absence of the Ministers from the ceremony of inauguration. M. Waldeck-Rousseau alone was present, and he did not think proper to open his lips.

The Chambers closed their Session on the 9th inst., having passed the conventions with the railways, and received a report approving the convention with the Bey of Tunis.

Admiral Pierre, the commander of the French squadron at Madagascar, has sent in his resignation to the Ministry of Marine, upon the ground of ill-health.

The triennial election of members of the Conseils Généraux took place last Sunday, and as these assemblies are parliaments on a small scale, departmental parliaments, the elections have a political importance. The electoral returns show new progress of the Republican idea throughout the country. Out of the 1423 elections 1174 are known; 601 Republicans have been re-elected and 303 Reactionaries, and the Republicans have gained 125 seats and lost 30, which leaves them a total result of 95 seats gained. There are 115 ballotages, mostly between Radical and Opportunist Republican candidates. In short, the Reactionaries have been once more severely defeated.

Amongst the topics of discussion that have been brought forward during these dull summer times is the question of scenery and accessories at the theatre. M. Francisque Sarcey has been studying the matter in *Le Temps*, and now M. Alexandre Dumas has written a long letter on the subject. M. Dumas is opposed to the excessive luxury of furniture and accessories now in vogue on the Parisian stage under pretext of realism, a luxury, by-the-way, by no means so excessive as that displayed at London theatres, like the Haymarket and the Lyceum. But M. Dumas is still more strongly opposed to the luxury of dress indulged in by the actresses at their own expense, since the Parisian managers do not pay for the dresses in modern pieces. It seems not improbable that on the stage, as in literature, a reaction in favour of simplicity and purity will be the result of all the excesses of naturalism and realism that have marked the productions of the past ten years.

It may interest English architects, artists, manufacturers, art publishers, and others interested in decorative art, to know that the Union Centrale des Arts Décoratifs is actively preparing its third technological exhibition, which will open at the Palais de l'Industrie in August, 1884. The exhibition will be devoted to all the industries connected with stone, wood applied to construction, the ceramic arts and glassware, and will include books, engravings, drawings, models, machinery, &c., connected with those arts and industries. The exhibition will be both retrospective and modern, and open to artists and manufacturers of all nations. All details and information may be obtained from the secretary of the Union Centrale, 3, Place des Vosges, Paris.

The Parisian press is organising a grand fête and tombola for the benefit of the victims of the catastrophe of Ischia. The fête will take place in the Garden of the Tuileries on the 26th of this month.—The preparations for the triennial Salon are being actively pursued at the Palais de l'Industrie. The exhibition will open on Sept. 15. About one third of the pictures will be new, the rest will be the most notable pictures exhibited at the last three annual Salons, in all 800 works.—The painter Louis Edouard Dubufe died at Versailles last week, at the age of sixty-three. A pupil of his father and of Paul Delaroche, Edouard Dubufe began by painting historical and religious pictures, but since 1848 he had devoted himself to portrait-painting. Almost all the celebrities, male and female, of the Second Empire have been limned by the smooth, silky, and cold-creamy brush of Dubufe.—A popular league against the abuse of vivisection has been founded in Paris. Arrangements have been made for public lectures to be given next month, and the walls of Paris are to be placarded with the pictorial representations of the horrors of vivisection issued by the Victoria-street Society. Miss Frances Power Cobbe is amongst the members of the Paris league.—A Frenchman M. Hilario Balsan sailed for New York on Friday last from Havre, with the intention of attempting in the Rapids of

Niagara the feat that cost Captain Webb his life.—The Civil Tribunal of the Seine has given judgment in the Mario Uchard-Sardou plagiarism case. M. Uchard, it will be remembered, accused M. Sardou of having plagiarised his play "La Fiammina" in the composition of "Odette." The Tribunal nonsuited M. Uchard, on the ground that both authors, in writing their pieces, had borrowed their subject from the common store of sentiments and passions that agitate the human heart, and that M. Uchard, in dramatising the subject in question, could not appropriate it in such a manner as to deprive others of the right of treating it after him.—The question of the re-establishment of the National Guard has been once more brought up in the Municipal Council through a proposition of M. Joffrin. The idea is to establish a national militia placed under the authority of the Municipal Council, and charged with the guard of the city. This militia would be composed of all citizens not engaged in actual military service. There is not the slightest probability, or even possibility, of this idea being realised; but it is worthy of notice, as showing that the Paris Council continues to pursue its revolutionary dreams of an autonomous Paris—a State within the State. The Municipal Council has voted 35,000 francs to enable pupils in the different colleges to make holiday journeys to different countries for purposes of instruction. It is also proposed to send three teachers, two males and one female, to the Exhibition now being held in Zurich to study Swiss methods of instruction.—The statue to the two brothers Montgolfier, Joseph and Etienne, was unveiled yesterday at Annonay. The ceremony was witnessed by a large number of people, and gave occasion for the delivery of ten speeches and some commemorative odes. Several deputies, officers, and members of the Institute attended.

T. C.

The King and Queen of Spain, who were staying at La Granja, having returned to Madrid, were most loyally received. King Alfonso on Monday held a review of the garrison of Madrid, consisting of fourteen battalions of infantry, five regiments of cavalry, and four batteries of artillery; in all a force of from 10,000 to 12,000 men. It is now stated that the revolutionary outbreaks which occurred in various places were supported mostly by non-commissioned officers and subalterns. It is announced that most of the troops that were engaged in the outbreak have given up their arms, and at a Cabinet Council held last Saturday it was resolved to cashier all officers engaged in the rising, which it is stated has been suppressed.

The King of the Belgians has accepted an invitation to a ball to be given on the 20th inst. to the foreign riflemen taking part in the shooting-match during the national fêtes.—The Belgian Chamber of Representatives has adopted the Government Electoral Reform Bill in its entirety by 62 votes against 41.

The Emperor of Austria paid a visit to the Emperor William at Ischl on the 9th inst., and remained more than half an hour. He then paid a visit to the Crown Prince of Portugal. The latter was afterwards received by the Emperor William, who returned the visit later on. Shortly after mid-day the Emperor William proceeded to the Imperial villa, and dined with the Emperor and Empress of Austria. The Emperor of Germany left Ischl in the afternoon, and was accompanied to the railway station by the Austrian Emperor and the Crown Prince of Portugal. Their Majesties' leave-taking was of a most cordial character.

Yesterday week the Emperor of Germany, much improved in health by his tour among the watering-places of the South, returned to Potsdam, and has taken up his residence at the Castle of Babelsberg.—The German Crown Prince and Princess have assigned a sum of 830,000 marks, which was subscribed by the nation as a compliment to their Royal Highnesses on the occasion of their Silver Wedding, for the benefit of various sanitary and benevolent institutions in Germany.

Next year the Austrian Government contemplates sending an exploring expedition to Central Asia, with the object especially of collecting information of all kinds concerning the high plateau of Tibet.

Anti-Semitic riots of a serious nature took place last week in Pesth, many shops belonging to Jews being broken open and plundered. Thirty-two rioters were arrested. Fresh excesses took place on Saturday night, and several rioters arrested by the police were found to be armed with poniards and loaded bludgeons.

Fourteen persons were killed and seventy-three wounded during the recent anti-Semitic riots at Ekaterinoslav, which also resulted in the destruction of property valued at 800,000 roubles belonging to Jewish tradesmen.

The Luther Festival, which took place at Erfurt last week, was very imposing. The town was crowded with visitors, and nearly 100,000 persons were conveyed there by train.

Last Saturday the marriage of Princess Zorka of Montenegro to Prince Peter Karageorgevich was solemnised at Cetinje, and the Sultan's yacht Izzedin arrived at Cattaro, to convey Prince Nikita of Montenegro to Constantinople.

A telegram from Constantinople states that the Governor of Salonica, who has been carried off by brigands, was captured in the town of Salonica itself, after a sharp fight, in which two of his guards were killed.

A shock of earthquake in the direction from west to east occurred near Serajevo on Tuesday morning.

A terrible hailstorm raged in Iowa on the 7th inst. The track of the storm was four miles wide, passing through three counties. All vegetation was destroyed in its course. One woman lost her life, and many persons were injured. Twenty-two cattle were killed. The hail fell in some places to a depth of five feet. On the Rock Island, Chicago, and Milwaukee Railroads the trains were blocked; and at Lonah station nine freight cars were blown from the rails.

The Chinese Government is having two large steam-corvettes of exceptional speed built at Kiel.

The forty-seventh annual exhibition of pictures and water-colour drawings selected by the prizeholders of the Art Union of London from the exhibitions of the past season is chiefly remarkable for the number of oil paintings drawn from the exhibition of the Society of British Artists, among which are Mr. W. L. Wyllie's "Timber-ships towing to a berth," and Mr. James Hayllar's "The best eyes of the two." From the Royal Academy come Mr. Arthur Stocks's "One generation passeth away and another generation cometh," Mr. Andrew Black's "Among the trawlers, Turbert, Loch Fyne," and Mr. A. A. Glendening's "Harvest Time." Several pictures have also been selected from the exhibition at the Albert Hall, and from that of the Society of Lady Artists. Of the water-colour drawings the most noteworthy are specimens of Messrs. T. F. Wainwright, James MacCulloch, C. Davidson, L. J. Wood, and S. P. Jackson. The large engraving to which every subscriber for next year is entitled, is a plate by Mr. C. W. Sharpe from "The Tuileries, 20th June, 1792," by Alfred Elmore, R.A. The subscriptions to the Art Union of London, now approaching its half-century of existence, amounted last year to £10,693.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

Though the sport at Brighton and Lewes last week was fully up to the average of former years, it naturally fell a little flat after all the excitement of Goodwood. The Brighton Stakes was regarded as little short of a certainty for Thebais (9 st. 4 lb.), on whom, indeed, slight odds were laid; but Whinblossom (6 st. 7 lb.) upset all calculations by forcing the pace throughout, and winning very easily by five lengths. Probably Thebais is not so good as she was at the end of last season, still 39 lb. is a terrible amount of weight to give away to a four-year-old that can gallop at all. After the grand form that he had shown a few days previously, nothing could be found to oppose Border Minstrel for the Cup, so he walked over for the forfeits, and we believe that the Cup itself will be offered again at the Autumn Meeting. Four remarkably speedy animals contested the Rous Stakes, and the easy victory of Hornpipe makes the performance of Geheimnis in the Stewards' Cup at Goodwood more astonishing than ever. Mr. Rothschild had a capital time during the three days; but we regret to say that Fordham, who has been far from well lately, was not able to ride, and thus missed several winning mounts in the famous "blue and yellow." The two-year-old racing was the strongest point of the Lewes fixture, and the crack fillies, Superba and Reprieve, pulled through in their respective engagements, though each of them was within an ace of being defeated. One would hardly have felt surprised if Superba had been beaten in the Astley Stakes, for she was reported to be a little "off," and Fantail, to whom she gave 13 lb., is rather smart. Reprieve's engagement, on the other hand, seemed a really good thing for her, and it is difficult to understand how Nautch Girl and Pizarro managed to run her to a neck, though possibly Lord Grosvenor's beautiful filly is beginning to get a little stale from the effects of all the work she has done this season. Seahorse (7 st. 2 lb.) proved the best of the three runners for the Lewes Handicap, and an objection to him on the ground of a cross was over-ruled at Kempton Park on Tuesday. North country sportsmen had two fair days' sport at Redcar during the latter half of last week. Additional importance was given to the meeting by the appearance of Chislehurst, who won one engagement and was unopposed in another. He had little to beat in the Great National Breeders' Foal Stakes; still he carried home his 7 lb. penalty in handsome fashion, and is likely to see a shortened price for the Leger, especially as Galliard is so shaky in the market.

Owing to "the twelfth" falling upon a Sunday, the grouse had one day's respite. Shooting began pretty generally on Monday, though some owners of large moors intend to delay making a start for another few days. As far as can be gathered at this early period, prospects of good sport in all parts are very favourable, as grouse seem numerous, free from disease, and not very wild. Reports from the Derbyshire and Yorkshire moors are specially promising; but the bad weather which prevailed generally in Scotland during the early part of the week renders it more difficult to form an opinion with regard to the northern moors.

Yachtsmen are now in the thick of their favourite sport, and there has been so much racing during the last few days that we can do little more than give the bare results. The Royal Yacht Squadron Regatta was the most important that has taken place, and the first prize sailed for was one of £100 for schooners, which fell to the Waterwitch, after a good finish with the Miranda. Another prize of £150 was offered for cutters and yawls, and for this the Samona came in first, but the Marjorie won on her time allowance: the rig prize of £50 went to the Loma. On the following day the Samona and the Marjorie again finished first and second for the Town Cup, but this time the former had 41 sec. in hand, exclusive of the time allowance she had to make. She followed up this success by securing the Prince of Wales's and Marquis of Londonderry's Cup; and, on the same day, the Sleuthhound carried off the cup presented by the King of the Netherlands. Her Majesty the Queen witnessed the regatta of the Royal Portsmouth Corinthian Yacht Club from one of the terraces of Osborne on Saturday, and the Prince and Princess of Wales, with their daughters, were also spectators. The most interesting race of the day, a handicap, was won by his Royal Highness's Belle Lurette, Lord Charles Beresford's Weasel and the Marquis of Stafford's Unknown being second and third respectively. A yacht-race from Cowes to Gilliker Point was also sailed on Saturday, under the auspices of the Royal London Yacht Club. The first prize, £50, and a silver medal to the captain, was won by the Sleuthhound; the second, £40, by the Neptune; and the third, £30, by the Arethusa. The race of the Royal London Yacht Club round the Isle of Wight on Monday did not finish until a late hour, when the Miranda became the winner of the first prize and Marjorie of the second. On the same day the race between the Czarina, Chazalie, and Palatine was sailed over the Queen's Course at Cowes, and resulted in a close race between the two first-named yachts. The Czarina had to allow Chazalie 2 min. 19 sec. start, but she won with 1 min. 26 sec. to spare. The regatta of the Royal Victoria Yacht Club began on Tuesday at Cowes, when prizes were won by the Ulinda, Freda, and Annasona for the three races sailed.

On Saturday last the One Mile Amateur Swimming Championship was decided in the lake at the Welsh Harp, Hendon. J. P. Taylor, of Newcastle, who won this race in 1880-1-2, had entered but did not start, and E. C. Daniels won very easily, G. Dunmore being second, and W. R. Itter third. None of the other competitors finished the distance.

The past Canterbury week proved as successful as usual, the weather being fairly favourable. It must have been a great disappointment for the locals to see Kent beaten easily in each match; still, the county was decidedly over-matched by a very strong M.C.C. team and Middlesex, and a defeat by nine wickets in each contest was scarcely surprising. Against Middlesex, Lord Harris (79 and 32, retired) batted grandly; but no one, except the Hon. Ivo Bligh (42), did much to help him. Mr. C.T. Studd (not out, 105) was the hero of the other side, though six other Middlesex men got into double figures. Rain saved Notts from a probable defeat from Lancashire, for which the brothers Messrs. A. G. and D. Q. Steel scored 60 and 75 respectively; Watson was in great force with the ball, and got seven wickets for only 41 runs. Gloucestershire has beaten Somersetshire by 114 runs, and this is actually the first victory that "the county of the Graces" has gained this season. Dr. W. G. Grace (40 and 43) and Mr. Moberly (58) were the highest contributors to the winning score. This week Surrey has taken full revenge on Leicestershire, winning the return-match with that county by ten wickets. Messrs. Diver (84 and, not out, 32) and Bainbridge (60) did most of the scoring. The former gave one of the grandest exhibitions of powerful, clean hitting that has been seen in the Oval for many a day, and should prove almost as valuable a recruit as Henderson; Mr. C. Marriott (48) and Warren (not out, 54) played well for the losers.

Mr. Henry Edwards, M.P. for Weymouth, has presented to the Corporation of the town £5000, for the perpetual benefit of the poor of Weymouth.



A DUTCH SEASIDE RESORT: DISCUSSING THE NEW ARRIVALS.

FROM THE PICTURE BY G. H. BOUGHTON, A.R.A.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.

Most of the medical schools of the metropolis will open for the session 1883-4 on Oct. 1.

Sir Stafford Northcote proposes to go, about the middle of September, on a cruise in the yacht of Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P.

An official circular has been issued by the Postmaster-General acknowledging the efficient services rendered by all engaged in the introduction of the Parcels Post.

Lady Brassey, accompanied by Miss Brassey, opened a bazaar at the Townhall, Battle, on Tuesday, in connection with the Congregational Church.

The thirty-second shelter erected by the Cabmen's Shelter Fund in London, the gift of Mrs. Headlam, was opened at Knightsbridge yesterday week.

A fund in aid of the sufferers by the earthquake at Ischia has been opened by the Lord Mayor, to which Mr. Gladstone and Lord Granville have each contributed £25.

The Select Committee of the House of Lords on the Manchester Ship Canal has decided that it is not expedient to proceed further with the Bill this Session.

Mr. Robert Rawlinson, C.B., distributed to the successful students at the Crystal Palace School of Practical Engineering last Saturday the prizes and certificates gained the past session.

Major Evelyn Baring, C.S.I., C.I.E., member of the Council of the Governor-General of India, has been gazetted an extra Knight Commander of the Star of India.

A rustic fête took place on the 8th inst. at the Lower and the Upper Welsh Harps and Fishery, Hendon, which had been combined for the purposes of the day in aid of the Metropolitan and City Police Orphanage.

At the Derby Police Court a person has been charged by the Midland Railway Company with smoking in a non-smoking compartment, and refusing to desist when requested to do so. The fine and costs amounted to £6 5s. 6d. It would be well if other railway companies followed suit.

Resolutions approving of a scheme for State-aided emigration, submitted by Mr. J. F. Boyd, were passed at a meeting held yesterday week in the Mansion House, the proposal being that 50,000 labourers and their families should be removed annually from overcrowded portions of the kingdom.

From a list just issued by Mr. Vere Foster of the contributions to his Irish female emigration fund it appears that through this agency alone no less than 19,000 girls have been assisted to emigrate. These girls, Mr. Foster says, have already sent home to their friends upwards of £25,000.

The court of directors of the East London Waterworks Company have, upon the representation of the sanitary authorities of the district, directed their engineer, who is now engaged upon the work, to erect temporary standpipes in the numerous courts and alleys in the neighbourhood of Poplar.

The thirty-seventh report of the Commissioners in Lunacy was issued yesterday week. The returns show that the total number of lunatics, idiots, and persons of unsound mind registered as being insane in England and Wales on Jan. 1 last was 76,765, being an increase of 1923 upon the number last year.

Sir Leonard Tilley, Canadian Minister of Finance, was on the 9th inst. entertained at breakfast by the executive of the United Kingdom Alliance, and gave an outline of the temperance legislation in force in the colony, where, it was stated, prohibition of the liquor traffic was carried out strictly.

The Lord Lieutenant was present at the All-Ireland Army Rifle meeting at the Curragh Camp yesterday week, and took part in some of the contests. The Challenge Cup was won by the Dublin Rifle Club. In the Curragh Plate competition his Excellency took the fourth prize, a set of studs. Countess Spencer distributed the prizes.

The Dundee fleet of nine vessels employed at the Greenland seal and whale fisheries have returned. They have captured 114 whales and 22,220 seals, the yield of oil from these being computed at 589 tons. The catch of this year is considerably better than last, the yield in oil being estimated at 140 tons more. The value of seal-skins and oil is stated at £25,785.

The weekly return of metropolitan pauperism shows that there were in the fifth week of July 84,525 paupers, of whom 49,932 were indoor and 34,593 outdoor. This is a decrease of 1294 as compared with 1882. On the last day of the fifth week of July 422 vagrants were relieved, of whom 278 were men, 126 women, and 18 children under sixteen years of age.

The Cobden Club Triennial Prize of £60, offered to the Oxford University for the best essay on the question "In what respects on purely economical grounds is the further application of the Free Trade policy required in the legislation of this country?" has been awarded to Mr. R. E. Troup, of Balliol College, a clerk in the Home Office.—The Cobden Club silver medal for Political Economy in Yale College, Connecticut, has been won by Mr. Edward Gaylord Bourne.

Six lives have been lost in a fire which broke out early on Tuesday morning in the mansion at Southall Park, kept as a private lunatic asylum by Dr. Boyd. The persons killed are Dr. Robert Boyd, the proprietor; Mr. W. Boyd, his son; Captain Williams and Mrs. Cullamore, two patients; Elizabeth Laghlin, cook; and the gardener. Mr. Boyd lost his life in endeavouring to save the lives of others; and many deeds of heroism were performed, some of the rescues being little short of marvellous.

At the order of the Newcastle Corporation, Messrs. Atkinson and Philipson, the eminent carriage-builders, Pilgrim-street, Newcastle, have completed an ambulance waggon on an entirely different method to anything previously known. It is for the use of the Newcastle Fever and Smallpox Hospitals, and admirably answers the purpose required. Hitherto similar conveyances have been hearse-like; but the present carriage is quite the reverse, presenting a light, agreeable appearance.

During the seven months ending on July 31, 205,584 persons of British origin left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe, besides 53,208 foreigners, and 1493 persons whose nationality was not distinguished. The total number of emigrants was, therefore, 260,285, as compared with 284,480 in the corresponding months of the year 1882.—The ship Dallam Tower, of 1499 tons, Captain J. F. Gilmore, chartered by Sir Saul Samuel, Agent-General for New South Wales, sailed from Plymouth for Sydney on the 9th inst. with 417 emigrants.

According to annual custom, the lists of freemen of the City livery companies have been posted at the Guildhall and Royal Exchange. The companies are seventy-three in number, with a membership of several thousands. The Loriners appear to be about the most numerous, numbering 303 freemen. Next come the Grocers, with 277; Spectacle-makers, 262; Stationers, 260; Haberdashers, 260; Fishmongers, 240; Cordwainers, 134; Drapers, 221; Turners, 210; Merchant Taylors, 194; Shipwrights, 170; Skippers, 158; Goldsmiths, 158; Clothmakers, 135; and Coachmakers, 101. The smallest of the companies has only six or seven freemen.

NOVELS.

Eighteen years have passed away since Mrs. J. H. Riddell made her mark in the literature of fiction as the author of "George Geith." It was a painful story, but there was no doubt as to its power, and the charm with which the heroine was invested was felt by every reader. The interest of this lady's recent fiction, *A Struggle for Fame*, three vols. (Bentley and Son), is also centered on the heroine, a young Irish girl, Glenarva Westley by name, who, when the estate and fortune of the family had been lost by her father's weakness, carried him with her to London and attempted to battle with fate by writing novels. The fame for which she is supposed to struggle comes slowly enough and when she least cares for it; the money comes more slowly still, and the plot of the story brings the reader face to face with honest and dishonest publishers, with authors of fair and doubtful reputation, and with actors and writers for the press who, had they lived in Pope's day, would have occupied garrets in Grub-street or slept as Savage used to sleep—in a bunk. There is a vividness and minuteness in many of Mrs. Riddell's scenes of literary life in London which remind us of Dutch painting; but, at the same time, they resemble little with which we are familiar in the present day; and we think the writer has erred in making her characters play their parts at a date so recent that most of them might be living now, and of no great age either. Glen herself—for by this contraction of the name she is familiarly known—may be still living in Hampshire, a comely woman of fifty. Whether the publisher's trade and the author's trade differed so greatly thirty years ago from their present position as the writer affirms is, however, of comparatively slight consequence to the novel reader. Some of the pictures drawn by Mrs. Riddell's skilful hand may appear strange, but they will be none the less welcome. The careful details and intense realism of the story would lead us to suppose that some of the Bohemian characters had at one period crossed the writer's path. Who can doubt that she has seen that clever, selfish, and successful Irish adventurer, Bernard Kelly, and his relative, Mat Donagh, who pretends to be connected with a great London journal as a man of letters, but in reality makes an income by it, perhaps more profitably, as an agent for advertisements? The Dawton family too, reckless, extravagant, generous, and not unkind on the provincial stage, the head of it dragging himself downward by the curse of drink, may be drawn from memory rather than from imagination. On the other hand, it is to be hoped, for the credit of human nature, that the description of the publishing firm of Felton and Lapdash is a fiction in its coarser details. Bubble companies there may have been, and swindlers no doubt there have been, in this occupation, as in others; but that a man so grossly vulgar, and so constantly drunk, as Lance Felton could secure, as he seems to have done, several of the leading writers of the day, appears, to say the least, unlikely. Poor Glen's instinct led her to shun him; but she was caught in the net at last, and suffered accordingly. The girl becomes Mrs. Lacere long before the close of the novel; but we do not much care for her husband, whose excellencies are only irritating. The business statements of the book, though perhaps dwelt on too elaborately, are characteristic of the writer. One of her peculiar gifts, indeed, is a mastery of business affairs, and who that has read the "Senior Partner" is likely to forget the use Mrs. Riddell makes of her knowledge of City life in that singularly impressive tale. "A Struggle for Fame" is not equal to that masterpiece of fiction, but it will not lessen the author's reputation, and this is no weak praise when we remember what that reputation is. The tale might have closed more cheerfully had Ned Beattie, the friend of Glen's girlhood, met with his reward; but the heroine would then have been less heroic and less true to the nature the novelist has endeavoured to depict.

A very good specimen of a certain kind of novel is *Mr. Searborough's Family*; by Anthony Trollope (Chatto and Windus), a posthumous work in one if not in every or in the proper sense. In this novel, extending to three closely-packed volumes, the author has shown how he excelled as a storyteller, how he could, by his power in that capacity, spin a long and really interesting yarn out of next to nothing. By his manipulation of details, by his fluent conversations, by his skilful delineation of features, and by exhibiting nearly every feature separately in nearly every possible light, he has made up his tale of three volumes out of a little matter which many another novelist, of greater intellectual gifts and much greater literary acquirements and abilities, would have had some difficulty in treating so as to fill a single volume comfortably without becoming insufferably tedious to the reader. Here is the whole plot. A man of wealth has two sons, the elder a gambler, the younger not. The property of the father, whose life at the very commencement of the story may be said to hang on a thread, is entailed, and, should he die, will inevitably come into the hands of the Jews, his eldest son's creditors. The father suddenly declares the eldest son illegitimate; and the world is divided betwixt two opinions as to the declaration, whether it is true or, for the sake of jockeying the Jews, false. The father produces what appears to be conclusive evidence of his son's illegitimacy; the Jews are convinced and accept, after a struggle, a compromise; and, when the estate is cleared and the father is nigh unto death, he pulls out more proofs to establish his eldest son's legitimacy. That is really all; nearly everything else might have belonged to different stories. The portraits of the father and his two sons are well drawn, but they are portraits of very questionable characters; the best being the eldest son, a reckless profligate, but a sort of second-hand Rawdon Crawley. And then the plot is preposterous; we have to believe that a gentleman, before he knew whether he would have a second child at all, and when his first was but a yearling, used his influence with his wife to make her go through a second ceremony of marriage, giving her maiden name, in order that he might be able to play with the law, if he pleased, at some future time to the discomfiture of Jews, of whom his prophetic soul already warned him to beware. Taken piecemeal, however, the novel is readable enough, full of skilful touches and knowledge of the world.

There is an abundance of power displayed in *A Fair Country Maid*; by E. Fairfax Byrne (Richard Bentley and Son), a batch of characters drawn with great force and mastery. There is no flagrant imitation, but there are occasional touches that seem to tell of an unconscious influence exercised by a close study of "Adam Bede" and "Felix Holt." If, however, there have been no such study and the points of resemblance be purely accidental, it is a very remarkable fact. The squire and the working man in love with the same "fair maid," the scuffle between these two men, the worsting of the aristocrat, the high moral character of the democrat, the wandering of the young person in an "interesting condition," all vividly recall certain scenes and incidents of "Adam Bede"; but in the present instance the "interesting condition" is that of a wedded wife and, though it causes her to be hardly treated by her father, it has no further painful consequences and is unaccompanied by any sense of shame. The generous young squire is most outrageously ill-used by everybody, by the writer who deals out hard measure to him, by the

"fair maid" who must be considered guilty of deceiving him, by the noble democrat who knocks him down, patronises him, "cuts him out" in love, and then tries to bully him out of a farm; and by the unbelieving, but eloquent, minister of the Gospel, who is his bosom friend and yet tries to murder him. The beauty of the "fair country maid" is the first cause of all the dreadful things that happen; and the question arises whether something cannot be done to crush or convert the race of beautiful women who do so much mischief, setting honest men by the ears, producing heart-burnings and jealousies, maddening preachers of the Word into confirmed Atheism, and inspiring the most unlikely persons with murderous intentions. The writer of the story, however, is not "thorough" enough, and spoils a tremendous catastrophe from a misgiving, apparently, lest the climax should offend weak brethren; and so a ludicrously improbable explanation is given of a very tragic occurrence, and a tale that had waxed in strength comes to a very feeble end. It seems, too, as if the writer had suffered from instability of purpose; the conclusion foreshadowed at the outset is very different from that which is arrived at, and yet the former would have been the more poetical, the more logical, the more pointed. To leave a sheep that has strayed, as it were, still straying, is pointless and unmeaning; to have brought it back to its original fold and reunited it to its family would have been an achievement full of significance.

A superiority of tone and style, an air of social and literary culture, would be sufficient to render *Hélène*: by Mrs. Arthur Kennard (Richard Bentley and Son), more readable than the generality of novels, if the story had in itself but few charms and graces. Fortunately, however, it has many; the heroine, whose name gives the title, makes a very picturesque and interesting central figure in a group of personages who are hit off to the life, and who have characteristics which, hit off as they are, keep attention alive and afford continual entertainment. The heroine's story is sad and, at any rate in novels, not uncommon. She is a French Countess, having been married after the fashion of her country, when she was very young, to an old nobleman whom she knew by sight and just to speak to; she was left a widow in her teens; she was poor, nevertheless, for reasons which it were tedious to relate even if they would be quite intelligible, and she had, through the fault of the French laws and her mother's innocent ignorance, the stain of illegitimacy; she is lovely, passionate, imaginative, clever, romantic, and she falls in love with an English Baronet of ancient descent, a guardsman, handsome, commanding, and clever beyond the popular estimate of guardsmen, who also falls in love with her. Why should they not marry? Well, he is poor for a Baronet, and his proud though gentle mother expects him to mend his fortunes by marrying money. So the Countess, what with her poverty and her unmerited stain of illegitimacy, romantically sacrifices herself for him, lies to his face in declaring that she does not love him, rejects his proposals and drives him into the arms of "money." Then, when it is too late, he discovers the truth; whereupon he with all a man's "brutality," as the novelist has it, persists in pressing his attentions on the Countess, "money" naturally becomes jealous as any other wife would, scandal arises, and the Countess and her married lover have a most perilous tête-à-tête on a yacht, attended, however, by no serious consequences, though the world of course shakes its head, "money" talks of a divorce, and the poor Countess of nunneries. How it all ends is told by the novelist in a very touching fashion; and to the novelist's account inquiring readers must be referred.

The art of writing short stories is one of which some great novelists have declared themselves incapable. Yet a short tale admirably told, while it requires nearly as much skill as a novel, is often more welcome, and in *Once More* (Bentley and Son) Lady Margaret Majendie has proved that she possesses this peculiar gift. The volume contains two "Stories of the Past," three "Stories of the Present," and two "Stories of the Future." The writer is a master, or perhaps we ought to say a mistress of style, and writes not with ease only, but with grace. "Lady Helps" must, we suppose, be regarded as a satire on one of the "fads" of our own day, which is represented as practically worked out in the future. The story is very funny, indeed delightfully absurd, but it is scarcely strong enough to effect what we may conjecture to be the writer's purpose. "Uncle George's Will" is charming, and we do not wonder that the heroine, Mollie, was petted by everyone who knew her. Happy girl! are there any women so fortunate out of novels? A bequest of £200,000 on condition that she should marry a man she had never seen was an utterly hateful condition to Mollie. She would never do it, never. Better that the money should go to a hospital; or, if she did marry Captain Stephen Houghton, she would hate him all her life long! How a lover comes unawares, how Mollie's warm little heart goes out towards him, and how, at last, "all went merry as a marriage bell," must not be more definitely described by the reviewer. That Lady Majendie can also tell a tragic story will be acknowledged by every reader of "Wild Jack."

Dr. Dyce Duckworth was on Tuesday elected physician to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, in the room of Dr. Reginald Southey, who has been appointed Lord Chancellor's Commissioner in Lunacy.

There were 2261 births and 1312 deaths registered in London last week. Allowing for increase of population, the births were 291 and the deaths 327 below the average numbers in the corresponding weeks of the last ten years. The deaths included 2 from smallpox, 56 from measles, 59 from scarlet fever, 15 from whooping-cough, 1 from typhus, 15 from enteric fever, and 91 from diarrhoea and dysentery.

A frightful accident occurred on Wednesday morning at Wheal Agar mine, near Redruth, resulting in the death of twelve men. As the gig or skip was bringing to the surface the second load of miners, thirteen in number, who had been working during the night, the rope broke, and the skip ran off violently back to the bottom of the shaft. Twelve of the occupants were killed. The thirteenth had jumped out just before the rope broke, the skip being then within a few feet of the landing-place, thus escaping the sad fate of his comrades.

The following sums have been awarded, under the Prevention of Crimes Act, as compensation for injuries sustained by victims of agrarian outrages in Ireland:—£100 to J. Lowe, of Moate, injuries inflicted January, 1882; £500 to W. Tremble, of Killaduff, in the county of Cavan, injuries inflicted May, 1882; £800 to Mr. H. M. Smythe, of Fitzwilliam-place, Dublin, for the murder of his wife near Barbavilla, in the county of Westmeath, April, 1882; £550 to Mr. T. Smith, of Milmount, King's County, for injuries inflicted near Monasteroves, February, 1882; £300 to William Lawlor, Richmond-road, Dublin, for injuries inflicted between Ardagh and Edgeworthstown, in the county of Longford, October, 1881; £700 to Mrs. Ann Nicholl and her children, of Markree, in the county of Sligo, for the murder of her husband, March, 1880, at Dromore West; £100 to Michael Brown, of Rathglass, Mayo, for injuries inflicted June, 1882.

SWISS FOLK: A TOURIST'S NOTES.

The generality of English tourists on the Continent in August and September, with the French and Germans, the Americans, and others, some of whose characteristic "varieties" were delineated in our Sketches last week, are happily not mere invalids or medical patients, ordered to seek more congenial air, or to drink some healing springs, for the restoration of impaired health. Nor are they, we believe, always to be esteemed such ardent devotees of the sublime and beautiful in Nature, or such enthusiastic students of local and historical antiquities, that they incur the costs of foreign travel for the mere sake of beholding renowned cities and famous battle-fields of ages past. They run all over Western Europe, in such a rapid flight, impelled rather by the wholesome desire to see the diversity of human life and manners, to hear foreign tongues, and to observe the curious differences of social habit, among the less modernised remnants of various nationalities still extant in places remote from the capitals and the main lines of commercial traffic. These are met with, perhaps, in the provincial towns and villages; in Brittany, the Ardennes, and the Pyrenees; in parts of Rhineland, Thuringia, Bavaria, Alpine Switzerland and the Tyrol; and in other districts where the peasantry, at least, though seldom any of the middle classes, may be found to retain some quaint peculiarities of costume and dialect, pleasantly contrasting with the monotonous usages of our own Macadamised country. This spectacle has, no doubt, a stimulating effect upon the mind, even of the unromantic Englishman; and it is certainly agreeable to his daughters and the young persons of his family, whose imagination is apt to crave the kind of nutriment supplied by contemplating the various ways of living among mankind.

Switzerland, besides the magnificence of its Alpine scenery, the glaciers, the perpetual snows, the peaks and precipices, the torrents, rivers, and lakes, far excelling most other mountain scenery in Europe, presents much that is curiously primitive in the aspect of some portions of its rustic inhabitants. But this is only in the Alpine pastoral districts; and the tourist will know better than to mistake those special types of local habit and attire, which are figured in our Sketches, for the general appearance of Swiss people. Three-fourths of that nation are Lowlanders, mostly of the German race, with French-speaking natives of the Pays de Vaud, Neuchâtel, and Geneva, distinguished only by sturdy attachment to the Swiss Republic, to Protestant freedom of conscience, and to Liberal and Progressive ideas of public life. They are surpassed by no European nation in all works of social improvement, industrial, educational, civic, political, and scientific; the cities of Berne, Basle, and Zurich, though not among the largest, may rank with the politest and most business-like of Europe; and the increase of manufactures and trade, favoured by the St. Gothard Tunnel, the Italian railways, and the Suez Canal, is making them in these days a very prosperous community. To confound this wealthy, enterprising, self-reliant, highly cultivated major part of Switzerland with the Alpine varieties of peculiar "Swiss folk," delineated by our Artist, would be like mistaking the fishermen of the Outer Hebrides, or cottiers of Ross-shire, for citizens of Edinburgh and Glasgow. In approaching the main range of the Alps, from either end of the Lake of Geneva, or from Berne by way of Interlachen, or by passing up the Lake of Lucerne to Altdorf, all the richer, more populous, and, socially, more important Cantons are left behind, with the rest of modern civilised Europe.

The Canton of Berne, it is true, claims territorial dominion of what are called the Bernese Alps, which attract the crowd of tourists to Lauterbrunnen and Grindelwald. An indispensable condition of "doing Switzerland" is to get as near as you can to those celebrated summits of the Jungfrau, the Mönch, and the Eiger, which form the vanguard of the mighty array extending from west to east across this classic ground of poetical, artistic, or physical raptures. It is said that Byron conceived the idea of his "Manfred" on the Wengern Alp, and even composed some of its verses on the spot; he tells us himself that he was then and there pelting Hobhouse with snowballs. A grand sight, to be sure, is that of the entire panorama of mountains filling the Southern horizon; all those tremendous "horns," the Schreckhorn, the Faulhorn, the Finsteraarhorn, the Wetterhorn, the Damm-und-Blitzhorn, standing between earth and sky like petrified Titans, posted there eternally for the protection of Europe! It is sublime, also, in going up the Wengern Alp, which is no very difficult climbing, to notice the laborious patience of your Swiss guide, with the heavy load of your provisions for bodily comfort on his back, with his Alpen-stock in hand, the unflinching pipe in his mouth, and every muscle of his limbs strained to manful exertion. When you are down below, or descending the path from the upland pastures to the villages, delighting fancy with the sweet names of Lauterbrunnen and yet more charming Reichenbach, there is not only the Staubbach to be admired, with its wavering curtain-fold of spray, beautiful, of course, a few minutes' walk from the hotel where they are preparing the table d'hôte for your repast. There are not only the romantic cliffs and gorges, along the precipitous sides of the narrow winding valley, which might possibly be matched in the Peak country of Derbyshire, or in the Scottish Highlands or North Wales; but the fantastic illusion seems to be aided by pretty oddities of dress among the female peasantry, and a queer originality even in the attire of the sterner sex, which our Artist has well hit off at the top of his page. The effect of these minor accessories—if we are to concede that little human creatures become of subordinate importance in the presence of big masses of limestone or granite schist—is equally remarked in other Alpine routes of travel.

In the Vale of Chamonix, and beyond its upper recesses, when you have sufficiently worshipped Mont Blanc, and have perhaps gone up to the Montanvert, to see real glacier formation, a broad cake of ice, torn



OFF FOR A HOLIDAY.



NOTES OF A TOURIST: SWISS FOLK.

with fissures, in the basin of the Mer de Glace, you journey onward to the Col de Balme, over which you can pass into the Val d'Aosta at Cormayeur, to stand on Italian ground. An elevated plateau, called the Flegère, quite close to the Glacier d'Argentière, is the summer grazing place of a few oxen and cows, one of which you will meet, attended by a herd-boy, the rough little beast wearing a bell from a neck-strap, as sheep do on the Sussex Downs, that its whereabouts may be discovered by the sound on the misty mountain-side. Or, instead of going that way, from the Vale of Chamonix, let us suppose you at once turn your back on Mont Blanc, and pass through the deeply shadowed, narrowly inclosed Vale of Trient, thence along the very picturesque road of the Tête Noire, a ledge cut on the steep side of a winding cliff, which

overhangs a mountain stream of considerable force. It is worth while to follow that road, for the views to be enjoyed all the way, at least as far as the Forclaz, the frontier post between France and Switzerland: but one would be amused, nevertheless, by seeing the droll little figure of a girl wrapped in a piece of straw matting, with an immensely broad-brimmed hat, assigned to the "Tête Noire" by our observant Artist. This is the ordinary route from Chamonix to Martigny, a dull little town on the Rhone above the head of the Lake of Geneva; but which may be avoided, if you want to get to the St. Bernard, by striking off to the right hand, at the Forclaz, and descending the open hillsides, near Bouvernier, to a pretty lakelet, and thence down to Orsières. The present writer has an agreeable recollection of walking that way, a

quarter of a century ago, in the genial companionship of Albert Smith, who was greatly pleased with this new pedestrian route. To Albert Smith, familiar as he was with Mont Blanc and its neighbourhood, this was a topographical discovery. He praised the guide from the Forclaz, who knew him well, and had heard of his Mont Blanc Exhibition in London. "Voilà une belle route champêtre," said Albert, "par laquelle vous venez de nous promener; j'en parlerai bien à Londres, et vous verrez que je detournerai tout le monde du vieux chemin de Martigny." Unhappily, to the regret of many friends, the clever humourist of the Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, did not long survive to give animation, amusement, and practical direction to English tourist parties in that region of the Alps. We went down together with him to dine at the village of Orsières,

where he refused to sleep, though it was late and dark on a September evening, but mounted a mule and started up the road to the Hospice of Mont St. Bernard, knocking up the pious monks there long after midnight. Following him at leisure on foot next morning, we encountered some ugly specimens of goitre, as bad to see growing on the human chin and neck as the one depicted by our Artist, which is ascribed to Martigny. This deformity, however, caused probably by the water of a rocky limestone country, is neither painful nor injurious to the general health of its victim. But a far worse evil is the prevalence in that valley of cretinism, the very lowest type of congenital idiocy; and never shall we forget the miserable aspect, the marred visage, the bleared eyes, the gibbering lips, the feeble pawing hands, the utter lack of expression, the abject condition, beneath that of any vigorous reptile, in which one of those poorest of "Swiss folk," unable even to beg, appeared to the passing tourist. It spoils our pleasure for the whole day. But we had just been diverted, a mile farther back, with the boastful romancing of an aged inhabitant, who declared that he personally guided the First Consul Napoleon, with the staff of the French Army, in the year 1800, up the Pass of St. Bernard on their march to the famous victory of Marengo. The old man, who talked of this in 1857, was likely enough to have seen Napoleon march through the village in his youth. All tourists up that road will testify that the scenery of the Val Ferret, and at the opening of the Val d'Entremonts, below Mont Combin, is exceedingly pretty. Higher up, it is dreary and dismal; and everybody is glad to get to the Hospice, and to share the good cheer provided by those pleasant monks, whose courteous hospitalities are described by Dickens in his well-known story of "Little Dorrit." St. Bernard dogs are still kept there, but no better of their breed than we possess in England; the chamois, airily reposing upon a shelf of some mountain precipice, is not so easily to be seen, but may be spied and shot by competent local sportsmen. The ordinary London excursionist, however, will in vain expect to see a chamois on those heights, or an eagle hovering in the upper air, and need not look so high. "Excelsior" is gone clear out of sight.

Though Mont St. Bernard is in Switzerland, Mont Blanc is not, and never was, but it has come to be in France within our personal recollection. The duty of following a vagrant Artist's lead now shifts the course of this roving commentary to a more central Alpine group. Yet, before quitting the Canton of the Valais, which French political geography would have called the Department of the Upper Rhone, the tourist has to pass up the Visp to Zermatt, a village much frequented of late years, since the Matterhorn became fashionable, and which has the access to that sublime peak recently improved by cutting paths and steps, and by erecting huts for shelter. There are fine views here to be enjoyed of the northern side of Monte Rosa, and the panoramic prospect from the Riffelberg is scarcely inferior to that from the Wengern Alp. For all that, in harmony with the general tone of these contemplations, we are equally glad to meet a brisk and jolly native maiden of Zermatt, riding astride her father's pony to market, switch in hand, and we wish her good luck on the errand. The shape of her saddle, with the curious net covering the haunches of her steed, and its complicated head-stall, will not escape notice.

The true central knot, as it were, of the entire Swiss mountain system is the huge St. Gothard group, from which flow, north, west, south, and east, the head-waters and the numerous affluents of four great rivers, the Reuss, the Rhone, the Ticino, and the Rhine, all rising within a circuit of ten miles around the summit of the Pass. The four Cantons of Uri, Valais, Ticino (Tessin), and the Grisons, or Graubünden, meet each other in the St. Gothard district, which is thus politically, as well as naturally, destined for the main stronghold of Swiss unity on the southern frontier. Nowhere can be witnessed more significant tokens of the juxtaposition, without commingling, of marked types of different races, Teutonic and Celtic, hill people and valley people, retaining also the special customs, fashions, and spoken dialects of their respective villages, which gives much piquancy to observations of life among the Swiss highlanders. Coming from the busy towns of Zurich and Lucerne, passing in the steam-boat from Lucerne to Fluelen, at the head of the Bay of Uri, one finds oneself in William Tell's country, beset all at once with legendary mementoes of the sworn league of Swiss Patriots, the Oath in the Meadow of Grütli, the secret meetings of a few leaders of revolt, the prowess of Tell, his defiance of Gessler, his skill as a lake pilot and as an archer, the shooting of an apple placed on his son's head, and the glorious sequel of a successful just revolution. A monumental chapel at Fluelen is dedicated to the memory of that hero, who doubtless had a real existence, and did some brave and noble deeds, but whose feat of hitting the apple seems to be apocryphal, as is the similar performance of one of Robin Hood's comrades, and of other notable archers in the world of old romance. Amsteg, ten miles from Fluelen up the Reuss valley, has a name which lends itself to a mild German pun; and this little joke is pictorially rendered by our Artist having perched his love-making swain upon the rail of a narrow footbridge, to intercept the good Swiss maiden as she carries her hymn-book home from church. She is such a pretty girl, as well as gentle and innocent, that we must, despite the cruel inscription placed beneath the portrait of a less favoured elderly person at Altdorf, give credit to the youthful womanhood of Uri for a large allowance of feminine beauty. This presumption is well sustained as far up the valley as Andermatt, to judge from the trim figure of a pastoral milkmaid going to attend to her cows, joined quite accidentally on her path by a manly young fellow in a smock frock and red tasselled cap. It is evidently a case of tacit intention to "keep company," as we say in England, preceding the time when the couple will have found words to express their mutual sentiments, which rustic lovers can seldom accomplish in the early days of courtship. The worthy monk of St. Gothard, a name spelt in Italian on our Engraving as "Gottardo," we cannot say wherefore, puts his clasped hands behind his back, and wends his lonely way to the Hospice, unmindful of the amorous pair. It would ask no less than the insight of Browning into monastic and ecclesiastical moods of thought to explore the subject of this reverend man's meditations. Our present concern being with the varieties of human life in that upland region, and the Sketches having all been noticed in due course, there is no occasion to linger on the St. Gothard road. Much remains to be seen in the Urseren valley, down which the impetuous Reuss pours its turbid stream in a descent of 5000 ft. within thirty miles; in the Maderaner-Thal, with its pine-forests, its foaming torrents, and its roaring cascades; in the narrow gorge of Schöllinen between the lofty cliffs, and at the Devil's Bridge, near which, in the great wars of the French Revolution, French, Austrian, and Russian troops alternately drove each other to and fro, mingling their blood with the raging stream below where they fought. All that, and much else, will be noted by the judicious tourist, and he will proceed to inspect the St. Gothard Railway Tunnel, recently completed and opened for traffic, which is, we trust, a pledge of abiding peace. In conclusion, let us repeat that the few odd specimens of sundry "Swiss folk,"

here presented to view, do not exemplify the main characteristics of the excellent Swiss nation: whose social and political institutions are, in some respects, a model of sound civilisation, and who are reported to have the best schooling for their children, the best militia training for the defence of their country, the most complete and solid municipal self-government, and the most purely Republican administration of State affairs. Swiss enterprise, ingenuity, and industry, moreover, working in every other country, as we often see, in Paris, in London, in Germany and Italy, by Swiss bankers and merchants and skilled artisans, gather plenty of well-earned wealth to enrich their native land. Our respect for Switzerland and her people is cordial and sincere; and the Sketches we have had to notice will be taken, as they are heartily meant, in a very friendly spirit.

NEW BOOKS.

Enormous pains must have been required for the compilation of the very elegant volume entitled *Old Court Customs and Modern Court Rule*: by the Hon. Mrs. Armitage (Richard Bentley and Son); and the spirit in which the labour was undertaken is the best voucher for the trustworthiness of the contents. A lady who is evidently the incarnation of loyalty, who believes heartily in the divine right of kings and queens, to whom Charles the Second and George the Fourth are each of them "the Lord's anointed," who thoroughly understands how important it is to the British constitution that one peeress should differ from another peeress in the length of the trains of their respective dresses, is not likely to have fallen into any errors, whether of commission or omission, in her tale of matters relating to courtly offices and ceremonies. And those are matters upon which English people, who notoriously "love a lord" and are careful and troubled about the functions discharged and the etiquette observed by the lords and ladies immediately about the person of the Sovereign, are never tired of disputing one with another, and, for the most part, displaying their ignorance. Let them draw near and enlighten themselves by the perusal of a very interesting and even useful book, which deserves not only to be read, but to be kept at hand for reference when necessity arises. There is an index to render such reference the easier, and there are four illustrative plates of unusual interest and of a kind that it is well to have always within reach. About orders of knighthood, about Royal residences, about coronations, about hereditary offices, such as the hereditary grand shoeblack and the hereditary umbrella-holder, the chief butler and the chief baker and all the rest of them, including the hereditary "herb-strewer," about the honourable corps of gentlemen-at-arms and the less aristocratic body of "beef-eaters," about the derivation of the "beef-eaters'" time-honoured name, about court dress, about drawing-rooms, about ladies of the household, about maids of honour and pages of honour, about the Lord Mayor and his privileges, about "the Champion" and his rights, about the visits of condolence which certain personages might expect from the Queen's deputy in former times, and about a hundred or two other like and unlike subjects, does the volume abound with curious information—information which thousands of worthy individuals are dying, from "season" to "season," to obtain, and which they can only obtain elsewhere with much loss of time and patience. There is a very droll, and perhaps instructive, list of the claims made by candidates who considered themselves entitled to perform services, menial or other, at the coronation of George IV. and the subsequent banquet: the Bishop of Durham claimed "to support the Sovereign," whether after or before "the banquet" is not stated, and the claim was allowed; but the Duke of Montrose was not accepted as "sergeant of the scullery," though the Archbishop of Canterbury was allowed "to make a mess of pottage" (by deputy, lest his Grace's education should have been neglected in that respect, no doubt), and the Earl of Denbigh was admitted as "carver." Be it remarked, in conclusion, that the Queen herself has graciously accepted the dedication of the book—a fact which is not without significance, as it implies a certain amount of the very highest and most authoritative sanction.

A gentleman who has lived on intimate terms, for the greater part of the last twelve years, with certain Mongol tribes, may have good reason to regret it, but he is certainly competent to give an account of the life that is led and the habits, manners, and customs that have been adopted by those tribes, so that *Among the Mongols*: by the Rev. James Gilmour, M.A. (Religious Tract Society), written by such a gentleman as has been supposed, who records the experience of twelve years, may be received without the least hesitation on the score of the writer's knowledge and competence. The book, moreover, is very interesting throughout and amusing in parts; it is provided with an index, which is a great assistance, and it is furnished with a map and with many striking illustrations. The author appears to be attached to the London Mission, Peking; but he is desirous of assuring readers, as they would soon find out for themselves, that his work is "not a missionary's report, nor a traveller's diary, nor a student's compilation." It is, in fact, a personal narrative compounded of various sorts; it is based upon what he saw, heard, did, and suffered whilst he travelled with natives in the desert, lodged with them in tents by the way, took his turn of watching against the nocturnal thief, sojourned in their abodes of trellis-work, employed himself in learning their language, made himself acquainted with their country, and afterwards devoted himself to the prosecution of his arduous duties as a missionary. That being the author's vocation, it was but natural that religious questions should occupy a great deal of his attention and a considerable portion of his book, and that he should be very pronounced in his condemnation of Confucianism and Buddhism. It is almost amusing, however, to find the author condemning Buddhists for doing exactly as the majority of Christians undoubtedly do; for juggling with conscience, in fact, because they discover that it is impossible for them to fulfil to the letter the injunctions of their religion. Variety is the distinctive characteristic of the author's work: he has something to say about everything, or almost everything, that Central Asia can be expected to contain, whether animate or inanimate, whether good or evil, whether palpable or impalpable, material or unsubstantial. Of diseases he discourses at some length; and it appears that the Mongols, who "very seldom change their clothes, and practise the least possible amount of washing, either of their persons or their garments, having a superstitious belief that if they use too much water, after death they will become fishes," are especially liable to be afflicted with a disagreeable malady for which the Scottish Highlanders were once proverbial. And then, with perfect ingenuousness, he remarks that "fiddles are not uncommon in Mongolia"; as if he had never heard of the "Scotch fiddle." One of the chapters best worth reading is the last, in which the author has somewhat to say about "Mongolia's two neighbours, Russia and China;" and another is that which deals with "Zesop in Mongolia," that is, with the fables in vogue among the Mongols, whereof the fable entitled "the seven lice and the flea" cannot be commended

for the elegance so much as for the pertinence and indigeneness, as it were, of the title,

No fewer than three maps are appended to *Eight Years in Japan*: by E. G. Holtiam, M. Inst. C.E. (Kegan Paul, Trench, and Co.), but as if to make up for this on the plan rendered famous by the witty Charles Lamb, who excused himself for coming very late to his office in the morning on the ground that he went away very early in the afternoon, there is no index. The volume contains "a record of work, travel, and recreation" during eight years' residence in Japan, from 1875 to 1881, and there is an additional account of a journey, from Nagasaki to Kobe, performed in 1882. It appears that the author obstinately persisted in having his work published, notwithstanding the discouragement he met with in consequence of "the number and interest of previous works by more accomplished writers"; and he will, no doubt, be applauded and rewarded for his obstinacy by a large circle of gratified readers. Few countries are more interesting than Japan; and the book under consideration is exactly the sort of book that is read with the greatest pleasure, perhaps to the greatest profit, and certainly with the greatest confidence, because of the conditions under which it was written. Let it be granted that the narrative is, as the author declares it to be, unambitious and egotistical; yet its literary pretensions are quite high enough for the purpose, and its egotism—which being interpreted means scarcely more or less than personal responsibility for all statements—is one of its chief charms. A secondary, but by no means an insignificant charm, is the bluff and somewhat humorous style of narration. The record is that of an engineer who was an actual participator "in the material tasks undertaken of late in Japan"; and that very important fact ought to be sufficient to obtain for his book an attention far wider, far more earnest, and far more trustful than that which mere visitors and students, however accomplished they might be as writers, would command. Perhaps the author's tone is a little flippant occasionally; but between flippancy and liveliness it is not always easy to draw the line, and lively he certainly is, and the cause of liveliness in readers.

Mrs. Rose Carnegie-Williams must be a very young lady, since she informs her readers that three or four times in the course of her travels she has been mistaken for fifteen. *A Year in the Andes*; or, *A Lady's Adventures in Bogotá* (London Literary Society), doubtless contains many signs of immaturity. The author writes cheerfully and, in a sense, easily; but she writes like a school-girl, and, indeed, with much less attention to literary form than is shown by well-educated school-girls. Her grammar, her construction of sentences, her familiar, off-hand phrases would frighten a head mistress; and she has the fault, too, of relating a number of ordinary incidents, too slight to be worthy of mention. A gust of wind blows off her hat; she goes out for a walk and just escapes a drenching, or stops at home all day, a fact twice recorded on one page; she plays at dominoes with her husband, which reminds her of home; or they amuse themselves "by trying to make a bright emerald-green frog which was basking in the sun on the top of a post, jump into the water." Mrs. Carnegie-Williams kept a diary, and that she should record many trifles in it is natural and reasonable. The interest, however, of such incidents is lost when they are gravely told in print. Going so far, and seeing so much, an Englishwoman with a genuine faculty of vision might have written a useful narrative. The author of "A Year in the Andes" does not want brightness or sensibility, but she wants knowledge and training. The book is far from indicating dulness, but it is marked on every page by immaturity. We may add that the volume is easily read, and that readers wishing to learn something about a capital so little known as Bogotá, will gain from it incidentally some useful or curious scraps of information. The cost of living, for example, is stated with much detail; and it may be worth recording that in Bogotá there are no fire-places of any description, and no bells—which latter deficiency leads to much shouting among the Spanish ladies within doors from necessity and out of doors from habit.

M. Félix Régamey, whose many clever illustrations in this Journal will not be forgotten, has not travelled round the world in vain. During a voyage from San Francisco to Yokohama, M. Régamey was first made acquainted with the Japanese romance of "Okoma," by Takizawa-Bakin. This species of transplanted "Arabian Nights" story has been translated by this accomplished artist into French, and adorned with facsimiles of several of the quaint and grotesque coloured illustrations with which the original is embellished. Bound in yellow Japanese silk, M. Régamey's translation of "Okoma" is an *édition de luxe* such as would gladden the eyes of the collector of rare books. The work of printing the tinted drawings of "Okoma" has been well done by MM. Eugène Plon et Cie. The handsome volume forms, indeed, an attractive album of Japanese art and literature.

At the Welsh National Eisteddfod meeting at Cardiff the chief feature on the 9th inst. was a competition between choirs of from 150 to 200 voices for a first prize of £100 and a second prize of £30. Six choirs competed, and 15,000 persons watched the contest. The first prize was taken by the Penrhyn Choir and the second by the Llanelly Choir.

Last month the officers of the Fishmongers' Company seized at Billingsgate 63 tons 3 cwt. of fish as unfit for human food. Of this 21 tons arrived by land and 42 tons by water; 50 tons were wet fish and 13 tons shell fish. The total weight of fish delivered at Billingsgate during July was 11,093 tons, of which 8007 tons came by land, and 3086 tons by water. By far the largest quantity—37 tons—of the unwholesome fish seized consisted of haddocks; while other large seizures were made of mussels, periwinkles, shrimps, and whiting. The remainder included cod, crabs, eels, herrings, ling, lobsters, mackerel, oysters, plaice, skate, soles, and whelks.

Reporting on the quality of the London water during July, Dr. Frankland says:—"The waters delivered by the companies drawing their supplies from the Thames were again unusually free from organic matter; all had been efficiently filtered. The Lee water, distributed by the New River and East London Companies, was clear and bright, exceptionally free from organic impurity, and superior to any of the Thames waters. The deep-well waters sent out by the Kent and Colne Valley Companies and by the Tottenham Local Board were of their usual excellent quality, surpassing any of the river waters in freedom from organic matter."

The trial at Liverpool of the four Fenians, Featherstone, Deasey, Flanagan, and Dalton, for being in possession of quantities of nitro-glycerine with the intention of blowing up public buildings, came to a close on the 9th inst. They were all found guilty, and were sentenced to penal servitude for life. Mr. Justice Stephens said that there was not sufficient evidence to convict O'Herlihy, and he was discharged. The trial of Patrick O'Brien for sending threatening notices to Irish jurors was concluded yesterday week at Liverpool. He was found guilty and sentenced to six months' imprisonment, with hard labour. In the Dublin Police Court on the 8th inst. Joseph Poole was committed for trial on the charge of having murdered John Kenny.

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Then, looking up in her trouble and perplexity, she caught sight of her own face in the glass.

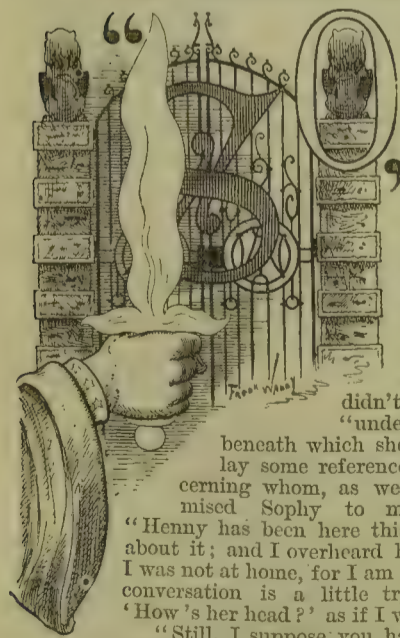
THE CANON'S WARD.

BY JAMES PAYN,

AUTHOR OF "BY PROXY," "HIGH SPIRITS," "THICKER THAN WATER," ETC.

CHAPTER XIII.

THE CANON PUTS HIS FOOT DOWN.



"my dear Maria, you were not at the ball last night, I hear," said the Canon, as he entered the drawing-room where his sister was sitting alone. "I can't say, under the circumstances, I am sorry, except for the cause. I hope your head is better."

"That is what everybody is saying this morning," smiled Miss Aldred, a little uneasily. She didn't like that expression, "under the circumstances,"

beneath which she shrewdly suspected lay some reference to Mr. Perry, concerning whom, as we know, she had promised Sophy to make no revelation.

"Henny has been here this morning to inquire about it; and I overheard her mother—to whom I was not at home, for I am tired to-day, and her conversation is a little trying—asking Barclay 'How's her head?' as if I was a ship."

"Still, I suppose you had really a headache last night, since it prevented your escorting Sophy to the ball—unless, indeed, it was merely an excuse and you had some more valid reason."

"Well, I had a headache, William. I think it was the cheering on the river. But the fact is, Sophy herself did not seem much inclined to go, so we agreed to give it up."

Aunt Maria felt that this was not a successful speech; but she was a little alarmed at her brother's manner, as well as at the guess he had made at the actual condition of affairs. It was very unusual with him to take interest in their domestic proceedings, or to question any arrangements she made for herself and Sophy.

"And why did she not want to go?" persisted the Canon. "She is generally fond enough of balls."

"My dear brother, if you knew as much of girls as I do (he did very nearly), you would understand that they are as full of their fancies as you wise men are of your great thoughts. The things they like to-day they dislike to-morrow, and for the same reason that made little Stevie, next door, throw all his toys into the dust-hole—because he was tired of them."

"Then, I hope Sophy is tired of her rag doll, Mr. Herbert Perry, and doesn't want to play with him any more."

A startling speech from the lips of anyone; but from those of the Canon like thunder out of a blue sky. It was lucky for Miss Aldred that his indignation supplied him with a fine flow of words, during which she was able to collect her thoughts; or, in her alarm—since concealment was now out of the question—she might have told him more than was necessary.

"I shouldn't complain," continued her brother, "if Sophy had fallen in love with some curled darling—such as one sees in the hairdressers' windows—but the man she is encouraging is not only a fool, but a vicious fool; perhaps even a scamp, or a scoundrel. Of course you noticed, what everybody else noticed, last evening, how he drank her health in public—conduct which 'nothing can excuse,' as the phrase goes, but Drink. It is no excuse in my eyes, however, but rather an aggravation. Moreover, it cannot be said that it was a temporary exhibition. I hear, on the best authority, that he went to the ball in a state of liquor. That is why I said that I was not sorry you did not go. And I shall be still better pleased to hear that the reason of Sophy's absence was the apprehension of meeting him, after what had taken place at my rooms."

"I really and truly believe it was," answered Aunt Maria. "I did not mean to say anything about it to you, because I promised Sophy not to do so; but that is what, on the whole, I gathered from her. I don't think she has any such fancy for him as she had; and if she is ashamed of him, of course that is a great point gained; only I intreat you to be careful in what you say to her. Opposition is the soil on which this sort of love affair thrives best."

"That's all very well in plays, Maria; but in real life it does not do to trust to a girl's having her eyes opened to her lover's unworthiness by his own misdoings. Upon one thing I shall tell Sophy I have made up my mind; Mr. Perry never crosses my threshold again."

"As to that matter, you will, of course, do as you please,

William," answered Aunt Maria. "The master of the house is at liberty to choose his guests; though, on the other hand, Sophy may insist on seeing her own friends elsewhere. But I don't think it will do for you to speak to Sophy yourself about the matter—at least, not now. She is not in a fit state for it. She rose late, and I did not see her till after I had come in from the town, when I was quite shocked at her appearance. If she had gone to the ball, and not gone to bed again, she could not look more weary and woebegone. Henny Helford, who called on her in my absence, was so alarmed by her appearance that she insisted on bringing in Dr. Newton after he had paid his visit to Stevie."

"A very good plan; Newton's opinion is worth having. What did he say?"

"Well, for once, it seemed that he hardly knew what to say. I had a long talk with him after he had seen the dear girl; but he himself said very little. That she is out of sorts, nervous, and depressed is, however, very certain."

"But she was quite well yesterday; indeed, until that impudent lad misbehaved himself on the river, she seemed in the highest spirits."

"That is no index to a girl's mind," observed Miss Aldred, sagely; "and whether the incident you speak of caused the change or not, she is very different now. 'Has she had any shock?' inquired the Doctor. Well, of course, I answered 'No.' 'No disappointment in the way of a love affair?' And to that I answered 'No.' I thought it injudicious to admit that things had ever gone that length between Mr. Perry and Sophy. Then he said, 'That's curious,' and passed his hand across his mouth, as he always does, you know, when he is puzzled."

"She's not herself," he said, 'she's overwrought somehow.'"

"Perhaps," said I, 'it's the books she reads; she is a great novel reader.'"

"Pooh! I'm speaking of her brain," he said. 'Novels won't hurt her. If she has any mental trouble, they will mitigate it; I always read novels myself when I'm in love, and then it blows over somehow.'"

"How like Newton!" smiled the Canon. "A moral Falstaff—only fatter. Then had he no advice to offer as to Sophy?"

"Yes; but it was, unfortunately, quite impracticable. 'If she was my daughter,' he said, 'and money was no object in respect to her future, I should select some nice quiet young

fellow, throw him very much in her company, and forbid her to encourage his attentions; then directly they were engaged he should marry her. She has had too much gaiety and dissipation, and has lived without an object in life. She has been her own mistress in one way, yet without any responsibilities; a spoilt child, in short. Now, when the least check comes in a life of this kind—and something of that sort has happened I feel certain—its importance is exaggerated and the whole world seems out of joint. The girl is a good girl, but my advice as regards her is what is given to a male rake, "Let her marry and settle." In his case the partner is but too often made a sacrifice; but I am sure Miss Sophy will make an admirable wife to any man whom she really respects; flirts always do."

"The whole philosophy of a girl's life in a nutshell," observed the Canon, smiling. "Very cheap at half a guinea."

"Just so," assented Aunt Maria, drily; "but it's a prescription one can't get made up at any chemist's. That is always the way with doctors. Good port for the poor, and the South of France for the invalid devoted to her own family in Bayswater."

"Still, Maria, what if—to pursue your own metaphor—we can get this man Perry thrown into the dust-bin, and provide a new and less dangerous toy for Sophy? Cambridge is quite an emporium in that way."

"They like, however, to choose their own toys," sighed Aunt Maria, moved perhaps by some far off reminiscence of her own of a toy beyond her means, or which had been bespoken by another.

"There is a young man coming here to dine to-night," observed the Canon, thoughtfully, "who in some respects would answer to the doctor's prescription. But he is a poor man; I don't say without expectations, for he has that sort of talent which never fails to succeed in life, but without any hope of inheritance—I mean he is of no family."

Miss Aldred shook her head. "I confess I believe in blood, William."

"I know, my dear," he answered, drily; "you think it is the great specific for the social fabric, like the King of Dahomey, who cements his palaces with it. Still, even the house of Hapsburg was begun with the merest mortar. However, you shall judge for yourself. In the meantime you must give Sophy to understand that under this roof, at all events, she will never see Mr. Perry again, and that if she sees him elsewhere it will be in direct opposition to my wishes."

The intervention of Canon Aldred in matters of his own house had the rarity of a miracle, but also the force. His laws, when he did go in for law-making, were as those of the Medes and Persians; and Aunt Maria was well aware that no pleading on her part on behalf of Mr. Herbert Perry would either defer, or mitigate, his sentence of perpetual exile.

She bowed her head and pursed her lips, the former in obedience to her brother's ukase, the latter in silent protest against it; took up her needlework—a sign that she was not coming back in a hurry—and left the room.

She had no sympathy with the offender, but her heart was full of pity for Sophy, and she thought it inconsiderate of William, though "very like a man," to insist upon such violent measures while the poor girl was ailing and in no condition for such imperious restraint. On the other hand, she was well convinced not only that the Canon was acting for Sophy's good, but that it was for her good; and in the coming struggle—for struggle she foresaw was awaiting her—was fully resolved to support the views of authority. Still she shrank from the conflict, and it was the desire to "get it over," that prompted her to such immediate action. A drop of water will wear away even a stone, and Aunt Maria's heart was by no means a stone, and much more pervious to drops of water. She anticipated tears and prayers, and her kind old chin fairly "bibbered" with the thought of the pain she was about to inflict upon her favourite. In her own youth she had never suffered her thoughts to stray in any direction save where the hand-post of duty and obedience pointed; but in the charity of her heart she was now reflecting that girls would be girls, and that, after all, poor Sophy's crime was a very venial one.

There are many such gentle souls in the world whom, because perhaps they are stiff, and old, and angular, we pass by in scorn, but whom the angels, I am inclined to think, regard in a very different fashion.

CHAPTER XIV.

A LITTLE SCOLDING.

Unconscious of her aunt's step upon the stair, Sophy sits alone, with a letter in her hand. It has just reached her, but not by the post; for she has other ways of communicating with the outer world.

"Dear S.,"—it ran—"Your absence last evening disappointed me immensely. I hope you really had a bad headache—I mean that it was bona fide and not a russe (Mr. Perry's education had been classical, and did not include spelling, or the modern languages). The truth is, I have had enough of this sort of thing, and am getting tired of it. For all that I see of you, we might as well be like your friend next door and her fascinating young lawyer in town. Moreover, something has occurred that makes it necessary to hurry matters, and about which I must talk to you at once. I shall drop in at the usual time to-day, unless I see or hear anything to the contrary; but it will be much better if I can have a word with you elsewhere—say, at the old mill. If I don't see you I shall wait for a line in Green-street up to four o'clock. That young dried-herring, Adair, was at the ball last night, by-the-by, looking, I thought, deuced nasty. That he suspects something, I'm pretty certain; but he didn't suspect how very nearly I was ringing his neck. Only a small matter, you will say; but still, another reason why the present state of things must be put an end to. Oh revoir."

"Yours, H. P."

It is scarcely in nature that a young lady should regard with displeasure the impatience of her lover, even though the inconvenience of its display should be ever so obvious; but Sophy's little brow had such a frown on it as suggested a padlock on a miniature, or a grenadier keeping guard over a jewel-box. Her blue eyes were wild and tearless; her delicate features were haggard with anger and fear. "A selfish, heartless letter," she said to herself; "a cruel letter." Then, looking up in her trouble and perplexity, she caught sight of her own face in the glass. "You fool!" she exclaimed, apostrophising it with sullen bitterness. "You mad and wicked fool!"

There was a knock at the door, and she thrust the letter hastily into her bosom, as Miss Aldred entered the room.

"Come, my dear, I am glad to see you have a little colour in your cheeks," said Aunt Maria, kindly. "I hope that means you feel better."

"I never thought there was much the matter with me," said Sophy, with a little hysterical laugh. "But, of course, the doctor had to find out something. I suppose he said 'the heart'; they always say 'the heart,' because nobody can get at it and prove them to be in the wrong."

"I hope it's not so bad as that," returned Aunt Maria, with some significance. "If you are really better and can bear it, I have a word or two to say to you, Sophia."

To have one's Christian name abbreviated to "Tommy," for Sir Thomas, for instance, by those who have no right to take such a liberty, is very annoying; but it only implies impudence, not displeasure, on the part of the offender. When, on the contrary, the Thomas is given at full length by those who are wont to call us Tommy, it is a sign that there is mischief brewing. The speaker had probably something serious to say, and not pleasant. Sophy had never been called Sophia by Miss Aldred, but once: when, little more than a child, she had set fire to her frock in dropping "kisses" of sealing-wax on an envelope she had directed to some juvenile admirer; and it would scarcely have surprised her more had she been addressed as Iphigenia. She knew, however, in an instant what her visitor had come about—the subject that had just now been occupying her own mind, and, to say truth, was never absent from it, save when she found herself in company. Then indeed, thanks, as her enemies would say, to that desire of admiration from the other sex which was as sweet to her as cream to a cat, she forgot it.

It would have been fairer to ascribe it to the superficial character of a nature which, in other respects, was by no means contemptible. Her disposition was affectionate and trustful, generous and forgiving. Of her own free will she would have harmed no living thing; but she was as impressionable as the river sand, and as impulsive as the wind that sweeps it. It was pitiable that one so unfit for the storms of life should at its very outset have rashly dared the illimitable ocean, far from port and home, yet hardly conscious of the doom that threatened her. In the trough of the sea, indeed, with hardly a star of hope visible to her, she was miserable and terrified enough; but when on the crest of the wave, lifted for a moment into the sunshine, she forgot the depths that menaced destruction to her. She saw them yawning now, and sat in affrighted silence, ready to catch at any spar, or straw, or floating weed; hopeless of safety, but eager for delay and respite. The terror in the girl's face, though the other little guessed what cause she had for fear, alarmed Aunt Maria in her turn.

"You may be sure, dear girl, that I am not come here to threaten or frighten you," she said, gently. "I am not, I hope, a very terrible personage, save to Johnnie" (the disobedient and plate-breaking page, with whom she was wont to wage that unsatisfactory sort of war which takes place between regulars and guerrillas); "while to yourself I can never be anything more severe than your counsellor for good. I may say, indeed, quite as much for the Canon, your guardian. He can no more be unkind than he can be unjust. But, being a man, and knowing better than we women do what men are, he thinks more seriously of certain matters because he foresees the seriousness of their possible consequences. To some girls, for example, a flirtation even with an undesirable young man, may seem a trifling thing enough. She goes on thoughtlessly, step by step, till she finds herself entangled—even compromised; and while she only thinks of the present, and its passing pleasure, her whole future life may suffer for it. I promised you last night, though somewhat unwillingly, after what took place at the procession, that I would say nothing to your guardian of the frequency of Mr. Perry's visits here; and I kept my promise. I trusted, and still trust, to your own good sense to put a stop to them of your own motion. But the Canon has spoken on the subject without any invitation on my part, and matters have been precipitated. He is very much annoyed, and even alarmed."

"I am so sorry," moaned Sophy. She sat in her chair as if she had been thrown there, all huddled up in a heap, with one hand a little raised, as if she would have warded off some physical blow.

"Of that I am quite certain, my dear (and indeed it was clear enough), and I am something more than sorry. I do not blame you in the matter one whit more than I blame myself. If you have been wilful, I have been weak; though I have never encouraged any goings on between you and Mr. Perry, I have too much ignored the matter and kept silence about it."

"For my sake," put in Sophy, tenderly.

"Not altogether, my dear. When I look back on what has happened, I feel that I have sometimes neglected my duty, because it was unpleasant to perform it, and to save myself pain. I ought long ago to have told your guardian that this young man was paying you marked attentions, and, in particular, that they continued, when you were away from home, in town."

Here Sophy hid her face, which had suddenly grown scarlet.

"I do not wish," continued Aunt Maria, looking at her very fixedly, "to reproach you with what is past and gone, Sophy; but your proceedings during that period were not what they should have been, I fear. Even so far as they came under my observation, they dissatisfied me; and I felt called upon, as you remember, to say something concerning them—though I did not say all—to my brother. It would have been better perhaps if I had been more frank. Still it was partly, at all events, to shield you from what I then thought to be his uncalculated displeasure, and I have some right perhaps to look for a little gratitude from you in consequence. I shall find it, you say?" (Sophy's lips had murmured something to that effect.) "Very good. All I ask of you, then, is to pay the debt you owe into your own account. No return for anything I have done for you can, I assure you, be more agreeable to me than that you should act wisely and for your own good in this matter. It is a more serious affair than you yourself perhaps have any idea of, and I tremble to think of the consequences that may follow a contrary course of conduct. You have hitherto only seen one side of your guardian's character; it is indeed good all round, but though so tender and lenient to the erring, it is not so to—forgive me, but I only use his own expression—scamps and scoundrels. He is as suspicious of evil-doers as he is charitable and trustful to the rest of his fellow-creatures. And it is certain that Mr. Herbert Perry has found his way into his black books. It is not without reason that he has got there, be assured of that, Sophy, though I do not wish to distress you with the disgraceful details; but the point is, that there he is. Your guardian's prejudices, especially when they are well founded, are as fixed as his attachments; and in this case I am very certain nothing will move him. I am to say from him that Mr. Herbert Perry is never to cross the threshold of this house again. If you meet him elsewhere, or hold any communication with him, it will be in direct disobedience to your guardian's wishes—are you listening to what I say, Sophy?"

"I have heard every word," answered the girl, in a half-choked whisper, though, as her companion noticed with some surprise, she was not in tears. "I will do my best, my very best, I promise you."

"My darling, there is only one way of doing your best," returned Aunt Maria. "I beg, I entreat of you, not to attempt to play fast and loose in the matter. Duplicity, or deception, are things my brother would never, never forgive."

Sophy shuddered: she was thinking of what was *done*, not of what she was about to do.

"Sit down at once, Sophy, like a good, dear girl, and write to this unhappy young man—since I suppose you *must* write to him—the simple truth. It is not as if you were giving him up of your own free will—though I hope you are doing that also. There is no change of mind to plead, but simply one of circumstances. Your guardian has forbidden you to hold any further communication with him, and you have no alternative but to obey. You have only to write that."

Only that! A crooked smile played upon poor Sophy's lips. Then, after a long pause, she once more murmured, "I will do my best."

This time Aunt Maria found no fault with that expression, but pushed a little writing-table to her companion's side, and set pen and paper before her. She had the sense to see that the time for talk was over, and also that the girl should not be left to herself to think.

"Shall I be in your way if I wait till you have written your note?"

Sophy shook her head, and with a trembling hand set down a sentence or two, and placed it in an envelope.

"Quite right, my dear; the shorter the better," said Aunt Maria, approvingly. "You will promise me to send it, Sophy. It had better be posted at once."

"Yes, Jeannette shall take it."

Aunt Maria stooped, and kissed the girl affectionately.

"The surgeon's knife is keen," she said, "but there is health in its use. God bless you, my darling; you will be better now that this weight is off your mind," and, with another kiss, she left her.

Poor Sophy did not look like one who has had a weight taken off her mind. She rose wearily from her chair, and, passing into the opposite room, placed a large oblong card in the window that looked upon the road. Such a sign in London houses means that the delivery-cart, or the dustman, is to call. In her case it meant something quite different. To certain eyes which would presently catch sight of it, from the other side of the way, it would signify, "My guardian is at home; you must not call."

Then she rang for her maid.

"Jeannette, you must take this note to Green-street."

"I do hope, Miss Sophy, that you are not going to do anything rash," answered the girl, hesitatingly.

"Rash! what should put that into your head? I shall want you to walk out with me this afternoon, at four o'clock."

"But not to meet Mr. Perry, surely?"

"Yes, it must be done," said Sophy, changing her light tone for one of bitter gravity.

"But consider; you are both known so well, and it will be broad daylight."

"Never mind; it will be, I trust, for the last time."

"That's what you always say," urged the waiting-maid; "but yet it happens again and again. The pitcher will go too often to the well, Miss Sophy; indeed, indeed it will."

"There will be no one to blame but myself; even if it does, Jeannette," answered Sophy, with a sigh; "here is the answer to his letter. Just leave it."

It ran as follows:—

"Dear H.,—I cannot answer your note in writing, nor answer it as you wish at all. Something very serious has happened. I will meet you behind the mill at five o'clock."

(To be continued.)

REPORT OF THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

The twenty-ninth report of the Postmaster-General has been issued. From it it appears that the estimated number of letters delivered in the United Kingdom during the twelve months was 1,280,636,200, showing an increase of 4.2 per cent; the number of post cards, 144,016,200, an increase of 6.4 per cent; the number of book packets and circulars, 288,206,400, an increase of 6.3 per cent; and the number of newspapers, 140,682,600, being slightly less than last year. The number of letters received in the returned letter offices was 5,651,443, an increase of 196,558; of post cards, 596,614, an increase of 37,205; of book packets, 4,988,990, an increase of 287,596; and of newspapers, 477,978, an increase of 63,184. Of the letters, 562,291 were unreturnable; 26,293 bore no address, and of this number 1604 contained cash and cheques, &c., amounting to £6016, the whole of which, with the exception of about £150, has already been returned to the senders. Notwithstanding repeated warnings to the public, nearly 30,000 articles were received loose and coverless, owing to the weak and flimsy nature of the wrappers used and the insecure mode of packing. Reply post cards, both inland and foreign, have been introduced; but hitherto the public have not availed themselves to any great extent of the facility thus offered. The number of telegraph messages was 22,092,026, being an increase of 746,165 only, as compared with 1,933,879 in 1881-2. The business of the savings bank shows satisfactory progress. The total amount due to depositors, including interest (but exclusive of Government stock), at the close of the year was £39,037,821, showing an increase of £2,843,326. The number of accounts remaining open at the close of the year was 2,858,976, as against 2,607,612 in the previous year, an increase of 251,364. The savings bank business in Ireland again showed a large increase. The total amount, including interest due to depositors at the end of the year, was £1,925,460, being an increase of £202,065. This does not include the amount of Government stock standing to the credit of depositors in Ireland, which is estimated at £125,000. The total amount of Government stock standing to the credit of depositors at the close of the year was £1,143,717. The postal order returns show a large increase. About £3,451,000, as compared with £2,000,000 in 1881-2, were transmitted by means of these orders within the year, and no less than 7,980,328 orders were used. The gross revenue for the year was £9,413,812, and the net revenue £3,061,748, being a decrease of £38,727 on the previous year.

The Lambeth Vestry have decided to build a new townhall and vestry offices. The estimated cost of the proposed building is between £40,000 and £50,000.

From a Parliamentary return relating to poor-rates and pauperism, it appears that the total expenditure for relief of the poor during the half-year ended Lady Day last was £2,252,286. Of this sum £982,586 was used in maintenance, and £1,269,700 for outdoor relief. The return comprised 647 unions, and a population of 25,972,119.

The first report of the Council of the London Chamber of Commerce has been issued by Mr. Kenric B. Murray, the secretary. The object of the volume is to provide the members of the association with some useful items of reference in a compact form, and while the figures given for the kingdom are accessible to statisticians in various publications, it is believed that those which have been compiled for the metropolis have not yet appeared in a collective form. The new points introduced into the report are the addition of the statistical section bearing upon the trade of the kingdom, and particularly that of the metropolis, and the inclusion of maps and tables bearing on economical questions.

THE INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES EXHIBITION.

SALMON POACHING IMPLEMENTS.

Mr. Henry Ffennell's collection of salmon poaching implements at the International Fisheries Exhibition is unique; nothing of the kind has been attempted before. This collection, which is displayed on the walls and counter of the first division in the East Quadrant, numbers several hundreds of implements. It will be a revelation to many of the ingenuity which is applied to the craft of the salmon poacher. The number of names of rivers that appear in the exhibit show that it is completely representative of the subject. The collection contains no models. All the implements shown are actual weapons of war seized by water-bailiffs from marauders caught red-handed, in *flagrante delicto*, harrying the salmon on the breeding beds and elsewhere, along the rivers and streams of England and Wales. It is interesting to note that some of the implements were taken within a few weeks of the opening of the Exhibition. To many of the captured implements are attached labels, telling the exact penalty inflicted upon the man caught with that particular instrument of salmon destruction. Some of these penalties, by-the-way, appear to be pretty stiff. As an example of this, we may cite the seven-pronged spear delineated among our Illustrations, which was taken from a poacher on the River Wye, near Bulth. The man was tried and found guilty "of using lights and spears and killing three salmon during close season." The penalty inflicted was £11 and costs. The blacksmiths who manufacture such spears for the poachers have, of course, to do so in secrecy.

It is curious to note the differences there are in the rude designs which characterise the poaching salmon-spears of various districts. The Wye poaching spear, which we have just alluded to, is not formed on at all the same principle as the salmon-spear used by poachers on the river Dovey. The salmon leister, with its nine barbed prongs, used in the Cumberland and Westmoreland rivers, is very dissimilar from the unbarbed four-pronged salmon-spear of the Usk and Ebbw. The spear from the river Seiont, with its three prongs, only two of which are pronged, differs also from the three pronged spear of the river Lune. Both these, however, bear a certain amount of resemblance in their form to the wooden and bone spears used by the Eskimos and various tribes of North American Indians. Another variety of salmon-spear is that we have drawn with four slanting unbarbed prongs. This is remarkable as a pattern of the implement alluded to by Sir Walter Scott in "Red Gauntlet," where he tells of the salmon spearing on horseback in the shallow waters of the Solway Firth. In the same engraving is shown a very curious salmon snatch, taken from a poacher on the river Wear. The man was fined £1 for having the implement in his possession. We have given two groups of gaffs or click-hooks, seized in the Usk and Ebbw district. In Mr. Ffennell's collection there are no fewer than 240 of these instruments, which were all seized along the Usk and Ebbw; and the Inspector of Salmon Fisheries' reports indicate that this is the favourite weapon of the poacher on those particular rivers. From the river Eden and the West Cumberland rivers we give several examples of various kinds of deadly snatches and click-hooks. Some of these are drawn through the water with a cord. Others, as will be seen, are furnished with a metal funnel, attached to the iron hook. These are generally carried in the poacher's pocket, as he walks along the banks of the river and watches his opportunity, when the coast is clear, to pull a stake out of the fence or cut a long rod from a tree; and then, knowing well where the salmon lies, with this long-handled gaff he makes short work of the fish. The drag shown from the Derwent river, with an oyster-shell at the end to attract the fish, is worked by a rope between two men, one on each bank of the river.

The poaching nets, of which we give a representation, are the shackle or double-armoured nets. This style of fishing for salmon, supposing the mesh to be of statutable dimensions, is not illegal in all districts, but is very deadly in its capturing power; and, of course, becomes a poaching implement on those rivers where its use has not been specially legalised. The standing net, from the Usk and Ebbw, is used by the poacher who knows the lie of the fish, and dips his net into the hole where the salmon rests under the bank. Along with the nets, we give drawings of two anti-poacher implements, invented by Mr. Mostyn Owen. These are wonderfully simple and effectual contrivances, calculated to lie concealed in the water. They tear the poachers' nets to pieces, making it impossible for him to carry on his operations, and destroying his gear. Our remaining illustration shows the rude form of dark lantern affected by the salmon poacher; and the more elaborate naphtha torch which can be flared up in a moment, and as quickly extinguished or darkened by returning it into the metal case.

Anyone who wishes to understand the deadly injury inflicted upon the salmon fisheries by poachers may consult the official reports presented every year to Parliament; from these we learn that there have been during the last three years 1512 men convicted for salmon poaching.

THE ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE.

The following is the list of gentlemen cadets, arranged in the order of merit, who passed the qualifying examination at the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, in July, 1883, for commissions in the cavalry and infantry:—

Passed with Honours.—P. G. Elgood, D. Y. Henderson, W. H. Norris, F. J. Fowler, W. Kirkpatrick, A. C. Lovett, R. Fanshawe, E. C. Townsend, H. L. Roberts, C. H. Schlesinger, J. R. Donne, J. C. B. Eastwood, F. J. H. Bell, W. A. Wilmott, C. Ferguson, F. C. D. Amesbury.
Passed.—W. H. Birkbeck, C. W. Field, W. L. Maxwell, E. W. K. Money, H. V. Bennett, H. L. Applewhite, W. H. Miller, W. S. Fotheringham, E. W. N. Pedder, C. E. R. Harvey, T. H. Hardy, E. W. M. Norie, A. G. Ferrier-Kerr, J. A. Douglas, R. P. White, M. J. Tighe, O. C. Wolley Dod, P. Langdale, C. E. Spearman, J. B. Bradshaw, W. C. Knight, A. B. Mesham, J. H. W. Rennie, P. Mantel, S. Bird, E. M. Robertson, J. C. Sutherland, L. H. Hawkes, F. Lamotte, H. de C. Moody, W. E. Banbury, A. C. F. Bouchier, A. E. Hubbard, J. C. A. Anstice, G. G. M. Hudson, R. Hall, P. J. Bellamy, A. E. Hatch, A. M. Streetfield, W. C. de V. Barrow, E. E. Husey, R. V. Davidson, A. C. Neale, H. C. B. Dann, H. D. Warburton, C. H. C. Du Cane, C. T. A. Searle, W. Hudson, W. A. Grant, W. Mills, W. G. Baker, C. E. Bancroft, R. J. D. Moseley, G. D. Clephane, B. W. C. Hood, H. M. Sidney, H. L. F. Anderson, W. T. Bartlett, R. Stewart, Hon. R. Lister, B. C. V. Wentworth, J. E. L. Armstrong, R. A. T. Dury, R. H. Ewart, L. E. Barry, J. F. Forbes, R. P. Jackson, E. O. H. Wilkie, J. H. Eekford, A. H. R. Milne, W. A. F. Burn, J. W. Fitzgerald, F. W. Moore, P. C. W. Trevor.
 C. Hamilton and T. G. Whistler were qualified on re-examination.

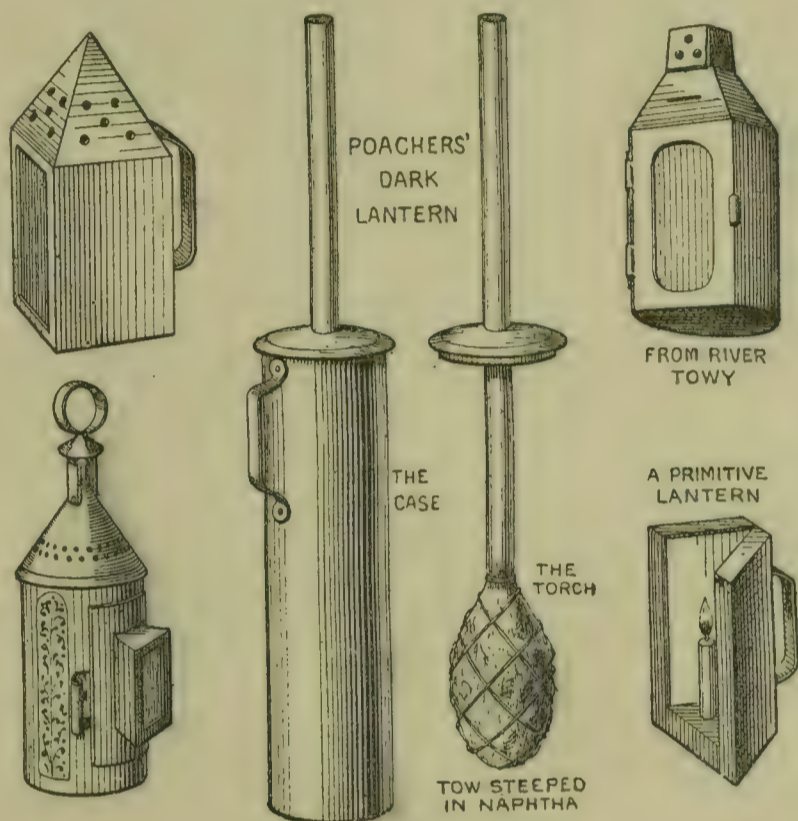
The Duke of Grafton intends to make a reduction in his tenants' rents of 20 per cent for the next five years.

OUR FISHING INDUSTRIES.

SPRATTING.

The species of fish scientifically denominated the *Clupea Sprattus*, which belongs to the Herring Tribe, but is distinguished from the herring by its small size and by a strongly serrated ventral edge, enters the bays and estuaries of the British Islands, every winter, in very large quantities; and young sprats are found abundantly throughout the summer on many parts of our coasts, partly on the southern shores. The largest sprat fishery is at the mouth of the Thames, where the large stow-net is employed for this purpose, as well as in the Solent, and in the Lynn and Boston Deep of the Wash. At Ramsgate and Deal the drift-net is sometimes used. It begins early in November, and is carried on till about the middle of February; the finest full-grown sprats are taken about the end of December. The spawning-time on our shores is considered to be in January; but some writers are of opinion that the sprat, like the herring and pilchard, has two spawning seasons, and that the summer spawning takes place in deep water.

The stow-net by which sprats are chiefly taken is a bag of conical shape, sixty yards long, divided into several compartments of its length, usually either four or six, which have their meshes of different size, and which are called, respectively, the "quarters," being the first and widest part, the "enter," the "sleeves," and the "cod" or "hose," diminishing to the closed end. The mouth of the bag is 30 ft. in diameter one way and 20 ft. the other; held open, at top and bottom, by two stout wooden "balks," above and below, to which is attached



SALMON-POACHERS' LANTERNS.

MR. FFENNELL'S COLLECTION AT THE INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES EXHIBITION.

a double bridle of ropes, made fast to the anchor of the fishing-boat. It is managed for sprats in very much the same way as the smaller nets used for whitebait. The boats employed in spratting are frequently those used at other times for shrimping, or for deep oyster-dredging. The fishing is carried on indifferently by day or by night; at the beginning of the tide, where sprats are likely to be found, the boat is anchored; the net is shot, running out astern; the sails are then stowed, and one of the crew is left to keep a look-out, until the tide becomes slack. Then, they heave in the anchor, and the "wind-chain," which is attached to the lower balk of the net, passing up through an iron loop or ring of the upper balk, to the bow of the boat; this shuts up the mouth of the net, and serves also to raise the net alongside. A long-handled iron hook is then used to get hold of the "cod," or end-purse, and to bring it in aboard the boat, when the fish are turned out, not all at once, but a certain quantity at a time, and cast into the hold; a peculiar wooden frame, called a "mingle," applied to the cod of the net, regulates the gradual discharge of its contents. These operations are described by Mr. E. Holdsworth in his book on "Deep-Sea Fishing and Fishing Boats," which we have quoted upon former occasions. Sprats are usually sold wholesale by the bushel, and are purchased, from the fishing-boats, by the dealers who supply the markets. When the quantities taken are excessive, and the demand fails, so that they cannot be sold fresh, they are sold to the farmers for manure. Drift-net fishing for sprats is only practised off Ramsgate, Deal, and Hastings, and for catching only those of the larger size. The stow-net is used in the Solent, by spratters from Cowes, from Portsmouth, and from Itchen Ferry. In Torbay, and in Plymouth Sound, these fish are taken by seine-nets; as they are likewise in the Firth of Forth and other inlets of the Scottish coast.

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ACROSS INDO-CHINA.

Several weeks' study might enable one to do something like justice to such a work as *Across Chryse*, by Archibald R. Colquhoun (Sampson Low and Co.), in two large volumes; but, as so much time cannot be spared, it is to be hoped that the author and the public will be satisfied with something very short indeed of justice. First of all let it be remarked that the volumes are provided with an index, with three or four maps, and with almost countless illustrations, nearly all admirable, and some of extraordinary merit and interest. As regards the title, an "ill-informed" friend asked the author what and where Chryse is; and many other equally "ill-informed" persons will, no doubt, ask themselves and their neighbours a similar question. Be it answered briefly that, according to the author's interpretation, Chryse means neither more nor less than Indo-China. The correctness of this definition seems to be supported by the high authority of Colonel Henry Yule, and is therefore beyond discussion, at any rate in this place and on this occasion. As for the author's purpose, the main object of his journey "was to ascertain the commercial and physical aspect of South-west China and of the Shan country." The adventurous nature of the undertaking, the inconveniences and even dangers encountered, the many interesting persons, places, and things observed and described, the value of the information obtained and recorded on all sorts of subjects, are beyond narration within a small compass, and can only be realised after a perusal of the volumes. Nor was the author's task of exploration completed without a casualty which terminated fatally; for his friend and companion, Mr. Charles Wahab, succumbed to disease on the way home from Calcutta, having been taken seriously ill at a critical moment, "in one of the most mountainous and difficult countries in the world." This misfortune and the defection of a mutinous interpreter forced the author to abandon his original plan and to adopt the disagreeable course of retracing his steps, at any rate for a while and for some considerable distance. It is impossible to over-estimate the interest of the minute descriptions given, with illustrations to boot, whenever the travellers—for the notes were set down at the very time and on the very ground—saw or heard, did or suffered, anything worthy of remembrance; but, as the object of the exploration was commercial for the most part, the seventeenth and eighteenth chapters of the second volume, in which "the question of trade extension with the north of Siam, the Shan country, and South-west China will be found fully discussed," must be considered the most important, though they may not be the most entertaining. The chapters are by no means easy reading, but, to assist the reader, the author has had two very carefully prepared maps appended—one, by Keith Johnstone, to show "the whole of Indo-China, and especially the region affected by the question of trade-routes from Burnah," and the other, on a larger scale, by Stamford, to show the author's "suggested future extension of the British Burmah system of railways to India on the one hand," and his "proposed railways through the Shan country to Bangkok (the capital of Siam) and to the frontiers of Yunnan, the south-western-most province of China, on the other." When it is added that, since the author's arrival in England, not only has the commercial body "acknowledged the importance of opening up Indo-China to British commerce in the manner proposed," but "steps are already being taken by the leading Chambers of Commerce" to aid him with funds towards the execution of his project, enough will have been said to show that men of business and enterprise, as well as official personages who have to watch over the commercial interests of this country, would do well to read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest what is contained in those

two difficult but noteworthy chapters. The reader who seeks to be surprised and amused, as well as instructed, will find abundant entertainment, as well as instruction, in the other parts of the work, which contains here and there sketches as picturesque and almost as amusing as some of those which appeared in Mr. Payn's Chinese-coloured novel "By Proxy." There is an exceedingly interesting appendix containing accounts, translated from the original manuscript by Mr. George W. Clarke, of the China Inland Mission, of eighty-two aboriginal tribes of whom remnants are scattered throughout the Chinese empire. The accounts, as there are so many of them, are necessarily very brief, but a great deal of information is comprised within a small compass. There is among them one amiable race of beings, if not more, who, "at the death of a parent, do not weep, but laugh, dance, sing, and have a great time of amusement"; and another who, having buried their dead in coffins, afterwards break the coffins open and take out and wash the dead bones, to make up, probably, for a want of ablution among the living, since it is expressly stated of a certain tribe that "both men and women wear woollen clothes, and these are never washed"; and of another "that they are the cleanest" of "the children of the soil," from which an inference might be drawn in support of a theory that cleanliness is not so generally prevalent among them as to pass without remark. On the other hand, a captious person might, of course, argue that the very contrary inference ought to be drawn: that the particular tribe is so clean as to be remarkable where all are clean. The question may be left open. Of the Chinese themselves, at any rate, it has been remarked that "they never look so dirty as when trying to clean themselves"; but that was the remark of an "outer barbarian," with all a barbarian's pride in his tubbing. Barbarians, however, who are so fond of parading their tub, should remember that one warm bath with soap and flesh-brush is more cleansing than any number of cold tubs. This, perhaps, the Chinese gentleman knows and lays to heart, illustrating his knowledge by practice. One gets a little sick of the Englishman's incessant babble about his cold tub.

An oil painting of Berwick has been presented by the inhabitants of that town to Lord Tweedmouth, in recognition of his services to the constituency while he represented it, as Sir D. C. Marjoribanks, for a period of twenty-five years.

A Parliamentary paper issued on Monday contains an account of the operations of the Commissioners for the reduction of the National Debt for the year ending March 31, 1883. The sums received from the Exchequer during the year were:—Under the heading terminable annuities, £7,283,012; old sinking fund, £349,725; new sinking fund, £213,793; the total being made up by other sums to £8,107,319. Of this, £1,113,829 represents interest, making the repayment of capital, swelled by land-tax, composition of stamp duty, &c., £7,149,284. The net value of the debt, after deducting loans recoverable and Exchequer (Suez) Bonds, is now £723,768,087.



1. The net hove up. 2. Turning the fish into the hold. 3. Hooking the net. 4. Ready for lowering. 5. Trimming the fish. 6. The fish coming down the hatch. 7. Working the fish. 8. Bound for market. 9. The stow-net. 10. The fish along.

OBITUARY.

SIR J. RIVETT-CARNAC, BART.

Sir John Rivett-Carnac, second Baronet, J.P. and D.L., formerly M.P. for Lymington, died at Winchester on the 4th inst. He was born Aug. 10, 1818, the eldest son of Sir James Rivett-Carnac, M.P., Governor of Bombay 1838 to 1841, and twice Chairman of the East India Company, on whom a baronetcy was conferred in 1836; and was grandson of Mr. James Rivett, H.E.I.C. Civil Service, who assumed the additional surname of Carnac. The Baronet whose death we record entered the Army in 1838, and retired as Lieutenant in 1843. He succeeded his father in 1846, and sat in Parliament from 1852 to 1860. He married, Dec. 19, 1840, Anne Jane, only child of Samuel Sproule, M.D., and leaves, with three daughters, one son, now Sir James Henry Sproule Rivett-Carnac, third Baronet, born June 27, 1846, who married, in 1870, Mary-Jeanne, daughter of Mr. Ambrose Henderson, of Bodmin, and has issue.

We have also to record the deaths of—

Mr. John Upton Gaskell, of Ingersley Hall, Bollington, near Macclesfield, on the 8th inst., at the age of eighty. Mr. Gaskell had been a magistrate for Cheshire since 1836.

Anne, Lady Pringle, widow of Sir Norman Pringle, sixth Baronet, and eldest daughter of Mr. Robert Steuart, of Alderston, on the 4th inst. Her eldest son is the present Sir Norman W. D. Pringle, Bart.

The Rev. Robert Moffat, the South African missionary traveller, on the 9th inst., at Leigh, near Tunbridge Wells, in his eighty-eighth year. For more than fifty years Dr. Moffat laboured as a missionary in South Africa, and translated the Bible into the Bechuana tongue. He was the father-in-law of the renowned David Livingstone. A Portrait of Dr. Moffat was given in the number of this Journal for May 11, 1872.

THE CHURCH.

The Bishop of Peterborough was making favourable progress, although slowly, at the time of our going to press.

The Ripon Diocesan Conference will be held this year in the Philosophical Hall, Leeds, on Oct. 17 and 18; and Bishop Ryan, in the absence of the Bishop of Ripon, will preside.

The parish church of Chepstow, Surrey, has been restored, at a cost of between £2000 and £3000. The expenditure having been entirely borne by Mr. J. G. Cattley.

The Rev. W. R. Sharrocks, Vicar of Holy Trinity, North Ormsby, has accepted the living of Old Ormsby, which is in the gift of the Archbishop of York.

An amateur concert in aid of the fund for the completion of St. Anne's Church, Bagshot, was given last Saturday afternoon at the Grand Stand, Ascot. Among those who assisted were the Duchess of Connaught and Princess Christian.

In conformity with the wills of Mr. J. Chapman and other citizens of London, who, in 1611, left sums of money for the purpose, the Vicar of Bow church, Cheapside, on Sunday, preached the anniversary sermon in commemoration of the defeat of the Spanish Armada.

Canon Anson, brother of the Earl of Lichfield, who has resigned the living of Woolwich to devote himself to Church work among the settlers in the north of Canada, sailed from Liverpool yesterday week in the Allan steamer Sarmatian. Canon Anson goes out at his own expense, and will receive no pay for his services.

Over £24,000 has been subscribed for the Pusey memorial, and the promoters hope to make it £30,000 by having an additional memorial meeting at Reading during the visit of the Church Congress, and on the first anniversary of Dr. Pusey's death, instead of, as was at first suggested, on the second Sunday in July.

The Rev. T. Howard Gill, M.A., of Trinity College, Cambridge, and Rector of Trowbridge, Wiltshire, has accepted the offer made to him by the committee of the Colonial and Continental Church Society of the vacant chaplaincy of the English church, Rue d'Aguesseau (facing the British Embassy), Paris. Mr. Gill hopes to commence his duties in October.

The Dean of Chester has, after a lapse of six years, decided to endeavour to complete the restoration of Chester Cathedral. Dean Howson makes an appeal for £15,000 for the execution of the work, which he proposes to spread over three years. About £1800 is wanted for works requiring immediate attention. Mrs. Platt, of Stalybridge, has contributed £2000 towards the erection of certain handsome mosaics in the cathedral.

For nearly three weeks the Wesleyan Conference held its meetings in Hull, taking stock of its past, and, with some misgivings, but more of hope, endeavouring to forecast the future. Yesterday week, a variety of business having been transacted referring to foreign missions, temperance societies, and the thanksgiving fund, an important discussion took place about the best means of promoting fraternal union amongst the various Methodist bodies, and the hope was expressed that events were gradually leading towards that end. Thanks were given to the Hull friends for their hospitality; and the President, in his concluding address, alluded to two unusual events which had occurred—the visit of the Hull clergy and the attendance of the Mayor and Corporation at one of the services.

The members of the Congregational Church, Highgate, have presented £720 to the Rev. Josiah Viney, on the occasion of his resignation of the pastorate. At Mr. Viney's wish, the money will be appropriated to the foundation of a scholarship or scholarships in connection with the School for the Sons of Congregational Ministers, now being erected at Caterham.

The Rev. C. H. Spurgeon, who has been suffering from rheumatic gout for some weeks, conducted service on Sunday in Exeter Hall, where his regular congregation will worship on the next three Sunday mornings, while the Tabernacle is undergoing redecoration.

The seventy-sixth session of the general conference of the New Jerusalem Church ("Swedenborgians") was opened on Monday in Camden-road church. The conference consists of ministers of the denomination *ex officio*, and of lay representatives delegated by each society.

The annual meetings of the Welsh Baptist Union were begun on Monday at Ebbw Vale. About 100,000 Connexional adherents are represented. Mr. Owen Lewis is the president.

The annual visitation of the Irish Society to their estates in the county of Londonderry took place on the 9th inst. The memorial-stone at the West Pier, Castlerock, which had been erected by the Harbour Commissioners to commemorate the gift by the society of £30,000 towards the cost of two moles and other works for the improvement of the navigation of the River Bann, was unveiled by Sir Hervey Bruce, M.P.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All communications relating to this department of the Paper should be addressed to the Editor, and have the word "Chess" written on the envelope.

O M (Copenhagen).—We shall be very glad to arrange the exchange if you will inform us of your precise address.

Baron (Beckenham).—This column is, of course, open to every reader, and your solutions, when correct, will be duly acknowledged.

ALFA.—The proffered sacrifice has been worked out in much the same way by several composers. It was new about twenty years ago.

E N F (St. John's-wood).—Please re-examine the last problem sent us. 1. Kt to K2nd (ch) appears a good attack.

W A M (Sheeburness).—We have forwarded your letter to the editor of the *Chess Monthly*. The July number contains many of the games played in the London tournament, and the August number is devoted to the tournament at Nuremberg, besides problems, end games, news, &c.

E T O O (Falmouth).—All the recent English works on the openings are out of print. We can recommend the German "Handbuch," published by Veit and Co., Leipzig.

E W (Sandown).—In Problem No. 2051, the Black King cannot be moved to K B 4th, as that square is occupied by a Black Pawn.

CONCISE SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEMS No. 2040 received from G B London (Richmond, U.S.A.), and B K Waltham (Richmond, U.S.A.); of No. 2050 from H Yousoulian (Constantinople), George Price (Tiflis), F Gibbons (Tiflis), and Emile Frau; of No. 2051 from Lavinia Grove (Campan); of No. 2052 from Trial, H Stebbing, A Chapman, O F K, Hereward, S Cranage, E L G, Cant, and B H C (Salisbury); of No. 2053 from H B, F J Abt, Schmucke, E J Winter Wood, Julia Short, J Hall, Carl Friedleben, W T Aman, Pilgrim, C O M (Dundee), E L G, Cant, H Stebbing, B H C (Salisbury); P E Wolter (Flushing), W Hurst, W Biddle, S Johnson (Nottingham), George H Hiles, Walter Bazett, E O H (Worthing), Irene (Dover), W Vernon Arnold, Gsp, J A B, A Chapman, Bristling Peaks, Gun-room Gabbler (H.M.S. Achilles), J R (Edinburgh), Hereward, Thomas F Butler, Raymond, Otto Meising (Copenhagen), George Johnson, T Kenny, P P (Brussels), Jumbo, J T W, A T Perry, Hotchpotch, T Yates, E H Collier, K (Bridgewater), A H Mann, Franklin Mitchell, and R H Brooks.

CORRECT SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEMS No. 2053 and 2054 received from G W Law, E London, H Blacklock, E E H, L Sharswood, Ernest Sharswood, Jupiter Junior, W Hillier, W M D, Alpha, A Harper, R T Kemp, Smutch, H Wardell, L Falcon (Antwerp), S Lowndes, M O Halloran, Ben Nevis, C Darragh, E J Posno (Haarlem), D W Keil, E Elsbury, Otto Fudler (Ghent), H H Noyes, A B Street, H K Awdry, L Wyman, G S Cox, G S Oldfield, B R Wood, M Tipping, A W Scrutton, H Lucas, C Casella (Paris), L L Greenaway, G S Oldfield, and F Ferris.

NOTE.—Some of our correspondents have treated Problem No. 2054 rather lightly. The device is not altogether novel, and the solution should present little, if any, difficulty to experienced solvers; but the problem is very well constructed, and cannot be solved by such weak attacks as 1. Q takes P, 1. Kt to K B 5th, 1. Kt to Kt 3rd, 1. Kt to Q 7th, &c.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 2052.

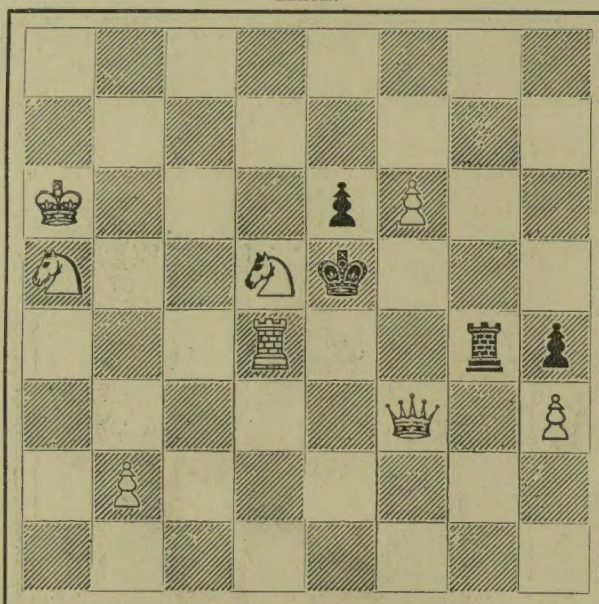
WHITE.	BLACK.
1. Q to K Kt sq	R to K 5th
2. B to K R 6th	Any move
3. Mates accordingly.	

The foregoing is the author's solution, but there are several others.

PROBLEM No. 2056.

By H. ASCHENHOU (Christiania).

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in three moves.

THE COUNTIES CHESS ASSOCIATION.

We announced last week the destination of the prizes in the first class tournament at Birmingham, and have since received from Mr. Henry Clere, the honorary secretary, a note of the result of the play in the second class. The first prize, £6, fell to Mr. Pollock, of Bath, who scored 11; the second, £4, to Mr. Locock, of Oxford, who scored 10; and the third, £2, was divided between Messrs. Wildman, of Birmingham, and the Rev. E. J. Huntsman, who each scored 9. The result of the handicap tourney we announced last week, and we now append a neat little *partie* scored by the winner of the chief prize, Mr. Macdonnell, against one of the most promising young amateurs of the day, Mr. Henry Lee:—

(King's Gambit declined.)

WHITE (Mr. M.)	BLACK (Mr. L.)	WHITE (Mr. M.)	BLACK (Mr. L.)
1. P to K B 4th	P to K 4th	16. R to K sq	B to B 7th
2. P to K 4th	B to B 4th	17. B to K 3rd	B takes E
		18. Q takes B	P to Q Kt 3rd
3. Kt to K B 3rd	P to Q 3rd	19. P to R 4th	P to K B 4th
4. P to Q B 3rd	Kt to Q B 3rd	20. P to R 5th	P takes K P
5. P to Q 4th	P takes Q P	21. P takes P	R P takes P
6. P takes P	B to Kt 3rd		
7. B to Kt 5th	B to Q 2nd		
8. Castles	Q to K 2nd		
9. K to R sq	Castles		
10. Kt to B 3rd	Kt to B 3rd		
11. P to Q 5th	Q Kt to Kt sq		
12. B to Q 3rd	P to K R 4th		
13. P to Q Kt 4th	P to R 5th		
14. P to K R 3rd	Kt to R 4th		
15. K to R 2nd	Kt to Kt 6th		

Black has committed his game to this attack, the force of which is spent in gaining the exchange.

Although begun irregularly, we have now the King's Gambit, declined.

Stopping to take the Bishop would have been disastrous.

The right move, and well timed.

24. Kt takes K P Q R to B sq

25. Q to B 7th (ch) K to K sq

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THE SUEZ CANAL, THE FRENCH IN MADAGASCAR,

A MYTH IN COMPARISON TO THE SANITARY CONDITION OF THE EMPIRE.

THE GREAT JEOPARDY OF LIFE IN THE MOST ENLIGHTENED PERIOD, THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.

THE SANITARY CONGRESS.—As late as October, 1878, in an Inaugural Address on the "Sanitary Condition of England," E. Chadwick, C.B., states that "Ignorance of sanitary science costs threefold the amount of poor rate for the country generally."

THE PLAGUE.—Europe alone lost twenty-five millions of souls in the Fourteenth Century. Its birthplace and cradle is now an Eastern occurrence. How few know what a fearful state of sanitary ignorance we live in. Improved sanitary knowledge HINDERS BLOOD POISONS FROM BECOMING INTENSIFIED. All should read ENO'S ILLUSTRATED SHEET, given with

ENO'S FRUIT SALT.—If this invaluable information were universally carried out, CHOLERA and many forms of disease, now producing such havoc, would cease to exist, as Plague, Leprosy, &c., have done, when the true cause has become known.

ENO'S FRUIT SALT REMOVES POISONOUS MATTER caused by impure or vitiated air, errors of eating and drinking, &c., by natural means. No one is

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